

## Bhutto appoints mother as her deputy

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto appointed her mother Nusrat as her deputy and brought four other women into her cabinet Wednesday. They were among 23 new ministers and ministers of state appointed when Bhutto, who took office in December, doubled the size of her team to 47, state television said. Nusrat, widow of the late Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, was appointed senior minister without portfolio. As the only "senior" minister she would automatically deputy for Bhutto. Women were appointed as ministers of state (junior ministers) for education, population, welfare, women's affairs and special education and social welfare. With Bhutto herself, there are now six women in the cabinet, the most in Pakistan's 41-year history. Bhutto, 35 appointed an all-women cabinet of 24 after she was sworn in on Dec. 2. The new appointments, announced on the eve of Pakistan's National Day Thursday, included two independents and two minor party ministers. The rest belonged to Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP). The PPP emerged as the largest party from last November's elections but fell short of an overall majority.

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## Crown Prince attends air force graduation

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday attended a ceremony for the graduation of a new batch of fighter pilots and pilot trainees held at Al Hassan Military Air Base, and distributed diplomas and awards to the graduates. Prince Hassan congratulated the graduates who included pilots from a number of Arab countries and urged them to exert their full efforts and work with diligence to serve their Arab

nation. The commander of the air base also delivered a speech on the occasion. The graduation ceremony, which coincided with celebrations on the air base's anniversary, was attended by the commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force and other senior air force commanders. Later Prince Hassan made a tour of the base and its services which included the Princess Rahmeh Kindergarten and a medical centre.

## Shelling continues as Syrians redeploy around east Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — Druze militiamen and Falangist gunners fought intermittent clashes with rockets and mortars in and around Beirut Wednesday.

Police said at least eight people were wounded.

That brought the overall toll to 66 people killed and 219 injured since March 8, when shelling duels broke out between Major-General Michel Aoun's 20,000-strong army units and Druze warlord Walid Junblat's Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) militia.

A police spokesman said six civilians were wounded in west Beirut and its Shi'ite Muslim southern slums while two others were injured in east Beirut's Tabweeta and Dekwanah residential districts.

PSP gunners blasted the Beirut port in the afternoon, setting fire to a merchant ship which the spokesman identified as "Naji 1." He had no details about its flag or owners.

Rockets also slammed into the coastal strip near the port of Jounieh, causing damage but no casualties.

The spokesman said PSP gunners fired at least 16 Katyusha rockets from a truck-mounted multi-barrelled rocket launcher in west Beirut at the Falangist enclave north east of the city.

The spokesman said Syrian troops and allied opposition forces maintained a blockade of the 310-square-mile (800-square-kilometre) Falangist enclave Mediterranean coast.

## Abu Sherif: U.S. troops could replace Israel in territories

TUNIS (R) — An adviser to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat has said the PLO would accept the replacement of Israeli soldiers by U.S. troops in the occupied territories as an interim measure.

"We would accept U.S. troops to take the place of Israeli troops. The moment there are no Israeli troops in the territories, the uprising would stop," Bassam Abu Sherif said.

Speaking on the eve of talks Wednesday between the United States and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Abu Sherif said the PLO would accept U.S. and Soviet sponsorship of peace talks.

Abu Sherif, whose statements have often caused controversy in PLO circles, told a group of reporters that as soon as Israel accepted the idea of a Palestinian state, the forum for negotiating a settlement would cease to be important.

"If the United States and the Soviet could guarantee the results, the PLO would accept that. If both sides accept a two-state solution, then all things are open and the form (of negotiations) becomes unimportant," he said.

Asked how the PLO would respond to any U.S. request to tone down the intifada (uprising) in the occupied territories, he said the intifada would subside only when Israeli troops withdraw.

## King Hussein hopes work will continue to build ideal homeland

ZARQA (Petra) —

His Majesty King Hussein has expressed hope that the work, construction, frankness, and participation would continue on all levels to build the ideal homeland and serve the generations to come.

Addressing the final session of the development council meetings of the Amman, Zarqa, and Balqa governorates which convened Wednesday at Zarqa College, the King said: "This is a stage of work and construction. Therefore we call on the Almighty to inspire us to undertake the right decisions, and to help us continue building in every field through cooperation, sincerity, and awareness."

Everyone's contribution in shouldering the responsibility and mapping out the course, through awareness, knowledge, free discussion and constructive dialogue, is a positive and important sign, the King added.

Touching on the issue of environment as "our present to the generations to come" which has become a world issue, the King addressed the participants saying "you will meet again in the spirit of the one family to sincerely make the future."

The King expressed full support and appreciation for participants and said that this is a busy day in which discussions dealt



His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday attends the final session of the regional development council meetings in Zarqa (Petra photo)

with what this dear part of the Arab World needs, the achievements and aspirations.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan earlier welcomed the King and asked the rapporteurs of the regional committee to present the issues discussed and the recommendations reached.

Planning Minister Taher Kanaan also explained to the King the achievements attained during the various stages of meetings and dialogues.

He hoped that these periodic meetings would continue since they provide a new style of responsibility practicing and promoting the framework of cooperation between the citizens and the officials.

"These meetings express a

leading experience in constructive and practical dialogue where it demonstrates the developmental needs of every region," Kanaan said.

He said: "The several stages of dialogue we passed through enabled us to reach genuinely with the needs for development in all the regions of the homeland. This also led to the contribution of the local societies in different regions, to adopt decisions related

to development expenditures."

Kanaan said these meetings are related to the concept of national participation and creating a balance between the actual and logical needs on the one hand and the available resources of the state on the other.

Present were Chief of the Royal Court Field Marshal Sharif Zaid bin Shaker and a number of ministers (See earlier story on page 3).

## King receives telephone calls

Later Wednesday, King Hussein received a telephone call from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak during which they discussed issues of mutual interest.

King Hussein also received a telephone call from Syrian President Hafez Al Assad during which they exchanged views on regional issues.

## Israelis kill Arab child during protests

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israeli troops in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip shot dead an Arab child Wednesday and wounded at least 16 Palestinians as residents of the territories held an anti-U.S. protest strike.

The sources said relatives took Haddad's body before Israeli officials could examine it.

Military sources said a senior army officer was probing the report and the 40,000 residents of the camp and Tulkarm town were confined to their homes to prevent word of the killing spilling further unrest.

Curtails were also in force on all eight of the Gaza Strip's refugee camps and some parts of

Gaza City, affecting about half the densely-populated strip's 650,000 Arab residents.

Witnesses in the city reported an incident in which they said a para-military border police trooper held a local youth at knifepoint in an effort to force protesters to give themselves up.

"They grabbed a passing cyclist and one border policeman put a knife to his throat and told the demonstrators he would butcher him if they did not surrender," a witness told Reuters.

"When no one responded the police clubbed the boy, who was 12 or 13 years old, then left him lying in the road," he said.

Two other witnesses supported the story, which an army spokesman said he would check.

The spokesman said he was also checking reports by residents of the West Bank town of Ramallah that armed Jewish settlers had smashed Arab-owned cars parked along the road to Jerusalem before being dispersed by Israeli police.

Israeli police have claimed the break-up of a major Palestinian commando organisation in Jerusalem.

Police said Tuesday the cell was run by the PLO's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine faction.

## Danish aide challenges Israel to test PLO

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen challenged Israel Wednesday to "call the PLO's bluff" by talking to the Palestinian group.

Elleman-Jensen, who heads a forum of Nordic countries, said he was seeking an explanation of Israeli policy towards Palestinians before a forum meeting later this month. He met Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens.

"It is our strong feeling that ways must be found to establish contacts to further the peace process," he told reporters after meeting Arens, stressing that Denmark supported Israel's concern for security.

Abu Sherif said that then "we would have elections for our people, then the Americans and the Soviets and others if they wanted will provide the auspices for the final settlement."

He said Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze had proposed U.S.-Soviet sponsorship of peace talks to Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens in Cairo last month but Arens rejected it because Moscow linked it with PLO participation.

The idea was designed to circumvent Israeli objections to the U.N.-sponsored conference, where the Israelis fear they would be heavily outnumbered by hostile Arabs and Europeans.

Abu Sherif said his idea of U.S.-Soviet auspices was not a radical change and it did not mean that the PLO would accept a unilateral peace which ignored the interests of Syria and Lebanon, parts of which are also under occupation.

## Israelis back elections under reported U.S. peace plan

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli politicians on the left and right gave backing Wednesday to elections in the occupied territories linked to peace talks, both reported to be part of a new U.S.-backed Middle East plan.

An Israeli legislator, who met recently with PLO officials in New York, said he believes the PLO has accepted the plan, which reportedly shuts the organisation out of formal participation in the first stage of Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

"The link between the two stages is an American promise to the PLO in the first stage that it will be included in the second stage," Yossi Sarid of the Citizens Rights Movement said on Israeli Radio.

"This has been accepted by the PLO, according to my knowledge," said Sarid, who recently attended a symposium on the

newspaper Haaretz, Israel would negotiate an interim settlement with elected Palestinian representatives from the occupied lands.

The PLO would join the talks only in the second stage when a final settlement is being negotiated, Haaretz said in the unattributed report. The PLO has insisted up to now on being involved in every stage of negotiations.

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## 3 more transplant operations performed at medical centre

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN (J.T.) — A team of Jordanian surgeons, led by Dr. Daoud Hananah, performed yet one more heart transplant operation at Al Hussein Medical Centre and the recipient was reported to be progressing well and in good condition.

The late priest's family also donated the lungs and the kidneys of the deceased to be used to save the lives of other patients.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that the donor was Father William Jamar Al Ya'qoub, a 35-year-old Roman Catholic priest who had suffered a stroke two weeks ago while conducting his duty in Karak in southern

receiving a kidney each. The three recipients were reported by the hospital to be in good condition.

The priest was buried in his hometown in Madaba Wednesday, some 30 kilometres south of Amman.

Several heart transplant operations have been performed by Hananah and his team in Jordan since 1985.

The first ever heart transplant operation in the Middle East and the Arab World was carried out by Hananah in August 1985. The first heart recipient, Mohammad Khalil is still alive and doing well.

Jordan and died Tuesday at the Al Hussein Medical Centre.

The recipient was 50-year-old Jamal Jamil Hussein Sumidi who had been in critical condition before receiving the new heart, according to hospital sources.

The late priest's family also donated the lungs and the kidneys of the deceased to be used to save the lives of other patients.

According to Petra, Hananah and his team performed two other transplant operations during which 40-year-old Marwan Abdul Karim Qtaish and 35-year-old Ibrahim Issa Dadouj re-

ceived a kidney each. The three recipients were reported by the hospital to be in good condition.

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## Waldheim in Cyprus

NICOSIA (R) — Austrian President Kurt Waldheim arrived in Cyprus Wednesday where he will hold talks with President George Vassilis and meet Austrian U.N. troops on the divided island. The Cyprus News Agency said Waldheim, who arrived from a visit to the United Arab Emirates, would discuss the political situation in Cyprus in the late 1970s as U.N. Secretary General for the signing of two high-level agreements on reuniting the island, divided since a Turkish invasion in 1974 which was sparked by an Athens-backed coup in Nicosia. Vassilis is holding U.N.-brokered talks with Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash on reunification, but progress has been slow. Before leaving Thursday Waldheim will visit Austria among the 2,100-strong U.N. force patrolling the green line buffer-zone and will lay a wreath at a memorial to three Austrian soldiers killed in the 1974 fighting. Waldheim said in the UAE that Austria would retain its neutrality if it was admitted to the European Community. "I would like to stress that Austria's priority is neutrality and it would like to continue playing its role as a bridge between East and West," he told reporters.

## King cables good wishes to Pakistan

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday sent a cable of good wishes to Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan on his country's National Day.

In his cable, the King expressed Jordan's desire to bolster brotherly relations with the people of Pakistan and wished the president continued health and happiness and further prosperity and progress for the Pakistani people.

## PLO, U.S. discuss substantial issues

CARTHAGE, Tunisia (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the United States held their first substantive talks Wednesday but apparently failed to agree on priorities.

The head of the U.S. delegation, Ambassador Robert Pelletreau, told reporters after a 4½-hour session in Carthage that the meeting concentrated on practical steps to reduce tension in the occupied territories.

But Yasser Abed Rabbo, who led the three-man PLO team, said:

"Many ideas and proposals are being put forward these days and the view of the PLO is that peripheral and detailed issues can be discussed in negotiations within the international peace conference."

The PLO wanted Washington to fully recognise the group and give its backing to an independent Palestinian state and self-determination for the Palestinian people, he added.

Israel has rejected the international conference idea and Pelletreau repeated the U.S. position that the best forum would be direct negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians.

The United States was looking to the meeting Wednesday, the first since the Bush administration took office in January, for signs that the PLO had changed its position on direct talks.

Abed Rabbo, a PLO Executive Committee member, said an international conference was the only appropriate framework for a final settlement but added that bilateral meetings between the PLO and Israel could take place as part of preparations.

Other PLO leaders have said the preliminary talks could deal with all the issues and the conference need only provide international guarantees.

"I did not talk about bilateral negotiations at all," Abed Rabbo said. "I said that in preparing for the international conference... There could be bilateral meetings between the parties concerned."

Neither side gave any details of U.S. proposals for reducing tension in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, where Palestinians have been in revolt since December 19

## Turkey treads lightly with Iran over scarf

ANKARA (R) — Turkey is treading warily with neighbouring Iran over its objections to a ban on Islamic headscarves at Turkish universities and believes further problems can be avoided, official sources said Wednesday.

"Our relations have their ups and downs every now and then, stemming from deeply rooted suspicions. But I don't think the headscarf issue will get more serious," one source said.

Mainly Muslim but secular Turkey last week complained to Iran for backing fundamentalist protests in Turkish cities over the headscarf ban but it has refused to escalate exchanges.

Women students demonstrated against the ban in Tehran and more than 150 Iranian parliamentarians denounced the ruling enforced by Turkey's constitutional court. They called for a review of ties with Ankara.

In a low-key response, Turkish parliamentary speaker Yildirim Akbulut said he regretted that an internal Turkish matter had been brought up in the Iranian Parliament.

## Press slams Shamir denial of PLO report

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli press and parliamentary opposition Wednesday accused Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir of lying in his denial that an intelligence report said Israel had no choice but to negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"The prime minister lied yesterday when he denied the existence of the intelligence report on the PLO," charged Yossi Sarid of the opposition Citizen's Rights Movement.

Sarid, a member of parliament's Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, said: "the evaluation of the intelligence services exists and speaks clearly of the moderation of the PLO and its joining of the compromise camp in the Arab world."

"It also speaks of the complete control of the PLO in the (occupied) territories and says only Israeli negotiations with the PLO are likely to calm the uprising."

The reported findings run

counter to Shamir's policy of refusing to talk to the PLO and to his view that the Tunis-based group remains a terrorist organisation bent on Israel's destruction.

At a news conference Tuesday, Shamir flatly denied published reports of the annual national intelligence estimate, which was presented to the inner cabinet last week by the head of military intelligence, Major-General Amnon Shani.

"All was a lie, all included in this information was a lie," Shamir said. Vice-Premier Shimon Peres, sitting beside him, pointedly avoided denying the reports.

In a carefully-worded statement, the Defence Ministry said the intelligence services made assessments, not recommendations. A defence source told Reuters that parts of the report had been leaked selectively, but he did not dispute the contents.

## Children lead the intifada

By Mary Sedor  
Associated Press

TAMOUN, Occupied West Bank — Whenever seven-year-old Seif Hasim spots Israeli troops approaching this West Bank village, he grabs a rock, pulls a checkered Arab keffiyeh over his face and runs into the street shouting, "the army's coming."

Seif and his grade-school friends belong to the "Palestinian Cubs," a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)-linked group that sets up barricades and throws stones at soldiers in the narrow alleyways of this village 110 kilometres north of Jerusalem.

"My job is to get the soldiers if they come into the village," explained Seif, his big blue eyes flashing. "There are about 45 kids in my gang. Some are older than me — they're eight."

Leaning back in his chair, Seif added in a high-pitched voice, "I want to be a PLO guerrilla when I grow up. Or a dentist."

"Also punishing children is a sensitive issue for the Israeli army. We know that and it is something we use," he added.

In some cases children join in protests over objections from parents. During the uprising, some Palestinian children have lost respect for their parents, whom they criticise for not fighting the Israeli occupation themselves.

"But Gharayeb said recently that more parents have been allowing or even urging children to protest in support of the uprising."

"There is a unique opportunity to organise children because parents are encouraging their children to be active," he said.

Sheffa Mohammed Yusef, mother of an 11-year-old daughter wounded by army gunfire last November, said she encouraged her daughter, "I throw stones, too," she said. "I want my daughter and her friends to throw stones."

Two boys, ages nine and 16, have been killed in Tamoun during the uprising, and 13 children have been wounded. The youngest shooting victim was Ziad Omar Sharaf, seven, a member of Seif's Cubs Group who was wounded in the arm last November.

"The marches are nice, but I prefer clashing with soldiers," said Riad Omar Mohammed Sharaf, 18, Ziad's brother. "I'm not afraid of soldiers. They have weapons, and we have weapons. Our weapons are firebombs and stones."

"The soldiers are now facing situations where the only targets are young kids," said an international relief worker who declined to be identified. "That has changed the equation of the conflict."

According to U.N. figures in the first six months of the uprising, 65 children age 15 or under were shot in the occupied Gaza Strip. By the second six months, the number of young shooting victims had increased nearly five-fold to 307, including 21 fatalities.

In January, 61 of the 129 shooting casualties in Gaza were 15 or younger, according to the Arab-run Human Rights Information Centre in Arab Jerusalem. Three died.

The centre's Jan Ahu Shakr estimated hundreds of under-16 youths had been detained

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### "U.S. racist in Mideast"

WASHINGTON (R) — The head of an Arab Americans lobby group Tuesday accused the United States of a "suspicion bordering on the racist" toward Palestinians which he said threatened peace efforts in the Middle East. George Moses, president of the National Association of Arab Americans (NAAA), said that for decades U.S. policy toward Palestinians had been based on distrust. The United States must learn to trust Palestinians in order to reach a viable solution to the Middle East conflict, he said. "There seems to have been in our policy construct an inordinate suspicion of Palestinians bordering on the racist," Moses said in a speech to the National Press Club. He accused the United States of a double standard in dealing with the two main protagonists in the dispute. "The theory here seems to be ... when Israeli pronouncements are made they are reliable policy, but when the Palestinians speak it's subterfuge," he said.

### UNRWA to give education in West Bank

VIENNA (AP) — A U.N. agency that offers relief to Palestinian refugees said in a statement released Tuesday it was seeking to provide basic education in the occupied West Bank where 90 of the region's 98 schools are closed. According to the statement issued at the Vienna headquarters of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), the interim measures to provide education are scheduled to begin March 25. They are to include education for agency teachers to visit pupils in refugee camps or where they live to distribute educational materials and give them guidance. The agency's commissioner general, Giorgio Giacometti, was quoted as saying he feared many older children were losing their basic skills and some younger children had not yet attended school due to extended school closures in the region. According to the statement 39,275 pupils are affected by the school closures, which are to last at least until April 19. The agency provides health care, education and welfare services to refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria as well as the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

### 'Little progress in freeing hostages'

BRUSSELS (R) — Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans said he had made little headway in talks in Syria on securing the release of Belgian hostages believed held in Lebanon. Tindemans told reporters Tuesday that Syrian help in freeing the hostages remained vital. But he added: "I am convinced that they (the Syrians) do not have any precise information." Tindemans said Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara had briefed him on the civil war in Lebanon, where Syria wields great influence among some factions. But he had been unable to provide any concrete information about either the disappearance of Jan Cools, a doctor, or the kidnapping of five members of a Belgian family. Cools, who was working for a Norwegian aid organisation, went missing last May. He was last seen leaving Rashidieh Palestinian refugee camp south of Beirut.

### Danish minister visits Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen arrived in Israel Tuesday for a 24-hour visit ahead of a meeting of the Nordic Council of Foreign Ministers next week. "Some of my Nordic colleagues have recently met the leader of the PLO, (Palestine Liberation Organisation)," Ellemann-Jensen, chairman of the council, told reporters at Ben Gurion airport. "Therefore, it is important for us to speak to the government of Israel because we want to maintain close contact with all sides in the Middle East and make sure that Israel does not get the impression we have forgotten them." Ellemann-Jensen will meet Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens Wednesday.

### Iraq cancels war-time rules

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq, relaxing gradually after its eight-year war with Iran, abolished a series of emergency regulation Wednesday. State employees can no longer be jailed for six months for disobeying superiors. Enforcement of price controls, under which merchants could be jailed for 15 years and have their property confiscated, was abolished. The ruling Revolutionary Command Council issued decrees abolishing dozens of measures which it said "were put into force due to the circumstances of the war ... and were limiting the freedom of citizens."

### Iran slams ICAO

NICOSIA (R) — Iran has complained to the U.N. aviation authority over its failure to denounce the United States for shooting down an Iranian Airbus in July, killing all 290 people aboard. Iran's official news agency (IRNA) said Wednesday that Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati told the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) that an ICAO statement on the attack was contrary to its own regulations. The ICAO statement Friday said the attack was a tragic incident resulting from "events and errors in identification of the aircraft." The statement was "opposite to (the ICAO's) past records in similar cases and against international expectations," Velayati said in a message to the ICAO secretary-general. "The (ICAO) is undoubtedly responsible for its consequences," IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Velayati as saying. It gave no details.

### King Fahd to visit Iraq, Egypt

Riyadh (AP) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia will visit Iraq and Egypt at the weekend, official sources reported Wednesday. The sources, who spoke on condition they not be named, said Fahd will fly to Iraq Saturday and travel on to Egypt the following day. They said his talks will focus mainly on the Middle East peace process and the Palestinian problem. The stalled U.N.-sponsored peace negotiations between Iran and Iraq and the civil war in Lebanon also will figure in the king's talks in Baghdad and Cairo.

## The British Council

### أسبوع التعليم العالي البريطاني

### BRITISH HIGHER EDUCATION WEEK

17 - 24 March 1989

#### ITINERARY

Sat JORDAN UNIVERSITY  
18  
Sun YARMOUK UNIVERSITY  
19  
Mon JORDAN UNIVERSITY OF  
20 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
Tues MU'TAH UNIVERSITY  
21

For further information, please contact the Public Relations Office or the Deanship of Student Affairs at each University.

Thurs BRITISH COUNCIL  
23 Open Day (2 - 7 p.m.)

Representatives from the following institutions will be available to answer questions:

University of Aberdeen

Bolton Institute of Higher Education

University of Glasgow

University of Kent

University of Nottingham

Trent Polytechnic

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and how to study in Britain

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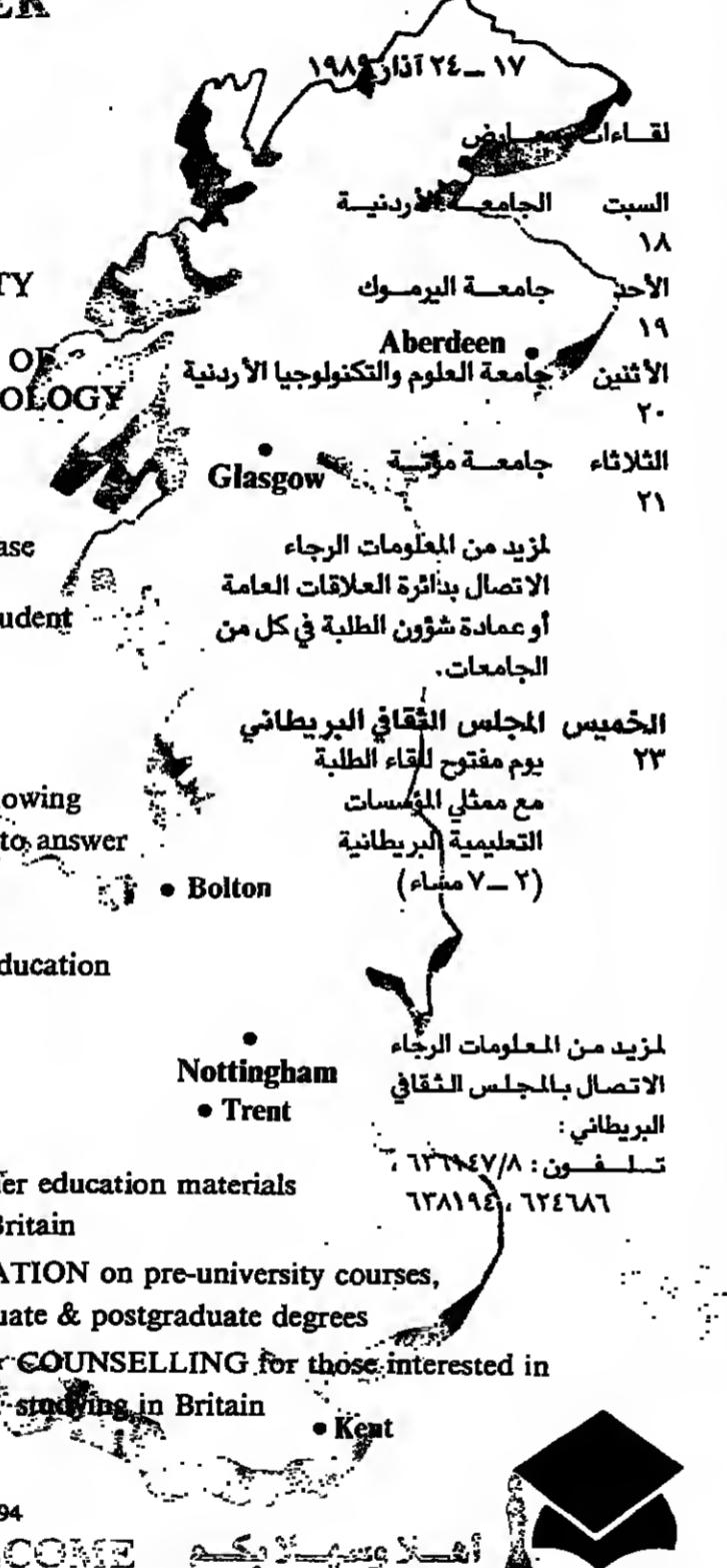
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Tel: 636147/8, 624686, 638194

ALL ARE WELCOME



## DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

#### NIGHT DUTY

#### AMMAN:

Dr. Abdul Rahman Al Najjar 775050  
Dr. Mahmoud Jabb 886661  
Dr. We'l Khatib 655916  
Dr. Anwar Al Aqabri 642957  
Armenian Orthodox Church 775261  
St. Ephraim Church 771751  
Armenian International Church 685326  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: 811295  
Rainbow Congregation Tel: 822605  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel: 813817, 821264

#### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

The country will be affected by Khamisini conditions. Therefore it will be warm and dry with the appearance of medium and high clouds. Winds will be southeasterly moderate in Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./max. temp.

Aman 11/24  
Aqaba 14/31  
Deserts 9/25  
Jordan Valley 14/29

Yesterday's high temperatures: Aman 23, Aqaba 29. Humidity readings: Aman 21 per cent, Aqaba 28 per cent.

### WATER AND SEWERAGE COMPLAINTS

897467

### AMMAN MUNICIPALITY COMPLAINTS

787111

### TELEPHONE INFORMATION

(directory assistance) 12

### OVERSEAS CALLS

17

### CABLEGRAMS TO AMMAN

787111

### OVERSEAS CALLS

17

### ROYAL JORDANIAN TELEPHONE

787111

## Queen Noor receives Bulgarian message

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Wednesday received at Al Nadwa Palace the wife of the Bulgarian Minister of Culture, Science and Education, Mrs. Maria Yordanova, who conveyed a message to Her Majesty from Mr. Vladimir Zhivkov, the son of the president of the Republic of Bulgaria.

The message dealt with ways to develop cooperation between the Nour Al Hussein Foundation and the Lyudmila Zhivkov International Foundation.

The Lyudmila Zhivkov International Foundation was founded in 1982 with the aim of promoting peace world-wide and providing the children of future generation with means of development through proper education.

Mr. Zhivkov, who is the president of the foundation, is also the general director of the Banner of Peace Centre and the first deputy minister of culture, science and education.

The foundation was founded by representatives of over 30 countries which include the United States, Canada, France, Italy and Holland as well as other countries in Africa, the Far East, Latin America in addition to two Arab countries.

The audience was attended by the Ambassador of Bulgaria in Amman, Yancho Demirev.

## OICC town planning conference

### Function matters, not style — Koshak

By Najwa Najjar  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Islamic planning of cities, according to Abdul Kadir Koshak, Secretary General of the Organisation of Islamic Capitals and Cities (OICC), should "concentrate on function, not on shape... which is not Islamic."

The architecture and architectural features found throughout the Islamic World, he says, are the products of different Muslim societies at different periods of the Islamic religion, and thus cannot be expected to be identical.

Nevertheless, he continued, planning in Islamic cities was based on the Holy Koran and the Ibadhah and so had universal and timeless aspects to it.

One of these was the location of Mecca in Saudi Arabia. "Mecca should be kept in mind because Muslims pray five times a day," he said. This will affect the design of the house and the orientation of the rooms.

Koshak also noted Islamic regulations which "prohibit" foreigners from looking inside the house. Therefore care should be taken that the entrance of the house does not "directly" open onto the road, and that windows, especially those at ground level, should be "high" and "isolated."

likewise, Islam enters into

## UNRWA to provide basic education to West Bank students

VIENNA (J.T.) — UNRWA is seeking to provide basic education to its students in the West Bank in light of the continued, forced closure of 90 of its 98 schools in the area. The schools with 39,275 pupils have been closed since Jan. 21 and have been ordered by the Israeli authorities to remain closed at least until April 19. The schools have been closed off and off for periods ranging from 10 days to six weeks since February 1988.

The agency's interim measures to provide education are scheduled to begin on March 25. UNRWA announced at its Vien-

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed date and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- \* An art exhibition by Egyptian artist Adli Rizqullah at Al Wasiti Gallery.
- \* An art exhibition by seven Jordanian artists at the Art Gallery of Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation — 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., 3 - 6 p.m.
- \* An art exhibition by Ahmad Ismael displaying paintings on Maqamat Al Hariri and Jordanian landscapes at the Gallery, Hotel Jordan Intercontinental — 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- \* An exhibition of posters on the French Revolution at the French Cultural Centre.
- \* An exhibition of paintings by Mohammad Al Jaloos at Alia Art Gallery.
- \* An art exhibition by Moroccan artist Al Hashem Izza at the Jabal Luweibdeh.
- \* A graphic art exhibition displaying works by German artists Liebermann, Slevogt and Corinth at the Yarmouk University.
- \* The Amman computer exhibition at the King Abdullah Complex — 10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- \* An art exhibition displaying paintings by children at the Housing Bank Complex.
- \* An art exhibition by Yusra Abu Ghazaleh at Philadelphia Hall, Holiday Inn.
- \* A photography exhibition displaying photos depicting Jordan's historical and touristic sites at the University of Jordan.
- \* An exhibition of Jordanian national heritage displaying Jordan-made carpets and dresses of Jordanian rural women at the University of Jordan.

### FILMS

- \* A feature film entitled "The African Queen" at the American Centre — 7:30 p.m.
- \* An Italian film entitled "Non c'è fumo senza fucce" at Hayat Arts Centre — 7:30 p.m.

## 'Intifada causes split in Jewish American community'

By Rania Atalia  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The 16-month-old Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories has led to an erosion in the unity that existed among American Jews and many are now reexamining what "loyalty to Israel" really means, according to Dr. Laurie Brand, deputy director of the Washington-based Institute of Palestine Studies.

"Many Jewish Americans, who previously presented a monolithic opinion, are now saying 'enough is enough' and are realising that loyalty to Israel no longer implies support of everything that Israel does," Brand said in a lecture at the American Centre Tuesday.

According to Brand, since the Palestinian intifada began in December 1987, a new generation of American Jews has emerged, questioning what the "security of Israel" really means, and whether the West Bank and Gaza Strip are crucial for the state.

Brand points out that even though this "reexamination" phenomenon may not be deep-rooted, it is still a beginning. "It may represent a new more realistic and less biased approach to the Palestinian people," she said, "but it is difficult to predict where it will go. There is still a lot of sympathy to Israel."

Brand stressed however, that support for Israel still holds, even from the very same American Jews who are now voicing dissatisfaction with Israeli policy.

Their "Zionist credentials," as she refers to them, were never in question. Their dissatisfaction with Israeli measures is not so much based on concern over what such measures might do to the image of Israel and to the "moral" character of the state, she said.

Be that as it may, the Jewish community is an important political group in the U.S., and Brand believes that this latest development is significant for the effect it may have in leading the U.S. administration to take positive steps towards a settlement of the Palestinian problem.

In December last year, the U.S. lifted a 13-year-old ban on dialogue with the Palestine Li-

beratio Organisation (PLO), and the second round of talks between the two sides was held in Tunis Wednesday. Brand believes that pressure on the U.S. by its European allies, as well as pressure by the Soviet Union on the PLO to recognise Israel's right to exist have led to the reopening of U.S.-PLO dialogue.

Political discourse in the U.S.

According to Brand, the intifada has also led to an unprecedented opening up in the realm of political discourse among the American public at large which has, in turn, raised the ceiling of "acceptable discussion" about the Palestinian cause. As Brand put it, Americans can now publish their opinion "without being attacked for it."

The "breaking of the silence" on the Palestinian issue has seen the word "Palestine" now appearing in the newspapers," she said. "Saying the word PLO no longer puts it in the 'terrorist' and 'radical' category."

Granted, she says, the American people as such will not be able to establish a state for the Palestinian people, but were it not for the intifada the American public would not even be discussing the issues. And from that situation, she asserts, there is no going back.

The Jesse Jackson election campaign is, according to Brand, the clearest example of how the intifada affected U.S. domestic politics. For the first time, a major candidate spoke of the Palestinian right to self-determination, and despite that he was able to achieve widespread acceptance among Americans. As a result, Brand asserted, proponents of Palestinian self-determination acquired a legitimacy which they never had before.

Brand sums up the effect which the uprising had on the U.S. as follows: "The intifada has sent a message which 25 years of armed struggle was not able to convey to the U.S. A people without a cause have changed to real people, with a real identity and a serious issue that needs to be addressed."

## Khasawneh receives UNESCO official

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Cooperation between Jordan and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) were discussed at a meeting between Minister of Information Hani Khasawneh and UNESCO assistant director for educational affairs.

The UNESCO official said that the organisation was studying means of providing assistance to

Jordan in accordance with the minister of information's request. He also conveyed a request to the minister that Jordan be involved in the organisation's campaign on the eradication of illiteracy which will be launched in the coming year.

The UNESCO official later visited the University of Jordan and held a meeting with its President Abdul Salam Al Majali.

## RSS to supervise quality of pipes

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) has signed a contract with the Jordan Pipes Manufacturing Company to ensure that materials used by the company in the manufacture of pipes in Jordan correspond to internationally-accepted specifications and standards.

An RSS spokesman said that RSS experts will be examining the types of pipes and the primary materials used in their manufacture to ensure good quality and abide by the required specifications.

Samples of the company's pipes and primary materials will be sent to the RSS on a regular basis to be tested by specialists at

the RSS's mechanical engineering department which normally conducts such tests and analysis on various elements and components used in industry.

The company's pipes are currently being used in water and irrigation networks, central heating systems, sewerage networks and in the manufacture of solar heaters.

The RSS's mechanical engineering department provides technical and consultancy services and helps to solve problems pertaining to industry in general. The agreement was signed by RSS President Jawad Anani and the company's Director General Khaled Kanaan.

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## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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## At 44, Arab League requires face-lift

THE Arab League's 44th anniversary which fell on Wednesday should have been an occasion to spell out operational ideas on how to invigorate this Arab organisation. That the League as presently constituted leaves much to be desired is an understatement. Unfortunately the Arab League has been left by its member states to atrophy the years to the point that has rendered it less relevant than ever in the conduct of inter-Arab relations. In more than one way, this benign neglect of the Arab League has rendered it impotent in dealing not only with crises and conflicts between the Arab World and foreign powers but also in dealing with inter-Arab disputes.

In this vein, the Arab League submits, and rightly so, that the League is what the Arab states would want it to be, nothing more and nothing less. Some Arab states would demur and argue that over and above the proposition that the Arab League is an accurate reflection of what its members want it to be, the League itself can do a lot more to become more potent and relevant in dealing with issues affecting the Arab countries and their peoples. It has been suggested many times in this context that even under the prevailing conditions, the Arab League has the potential to become much more dynamic in addressing subjects affecting the Arab World. That is why none would have thought that an occasion like the 44th anniversary of the League would have been a propitious occasion to announce new measures that would render the Arab League more forceful and meaningful in its ways within and without the Arab member states.

For example, the Arab League can save much needed funds by closing down several of its offices in capitals where there is ample presence of Arab embassies. It is a common knowledge that where there are sufficient number of Arab diplomats, there is really no need for an Arab League secretariat to organise meetings between them. Its presence in such capitals is truly redundant. This has been amply proven in capitals like Ankara where the Arab diplomatic community was able to conduct its inter-Arab functions and diplomatic missions just as well without the benefit of an Arab League bureaucracy. The Arab League would be better advised to spend its meager resources in other avenues where it stands to reap much more tangible results. The main Arab League secretariat in Tunis can use new blood in the form of proficient Arab experts in different fields in order to render the head office more efficient and dynamic. The Arab World does not need just an Arab civil servants force which is not sufficiently motivated or versed in matters that are of great interest to the Arab World. There must be, therefore, more turnover in senior personnel to allow opportunities for younger people with new perspectives and ideas. Otherwise the Arab League would become a rather fossilised creature geared only to serve fossilised ideas and perspectives.

To be sure there are many other avenues open to the Arab League to rectify its course and amend its ways. The best way is to form an inter-Arab committee of experts to deal with this task of revamping the Arab League from head to toe. The 44th anniversary of the Arab League could have been just the occasion to announce the formation of such a committee.

## JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

WASHINGTON'S moves to find a settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict is discussed in Al Ra'i Arabic daily newspaper's editorial Wednesday. The paper said everyone is optimistic over the United States' commencement of efforts to deal with the problem by contacting Jordan, Egypt and Israel, because such contacts mean that Washington was oriented towards finding a lasting peace in the Middle East. In May His Majesty King Hussein will visit Washington for talks with President Bush following the latter's contacts with Egypt and Israel, and the King's visit will open up good chances for further discussion of the problem in detail, and new prospects for Washington to offer new ideas towards a solution. The United States, the paper said, has announced that it will hold the meetings to try to bring closer the concerned parties in a bid to create common ground for a settlement. Indeed, the United States shoulders serious responsibilities as a superpower and should take immediate steps towards such a settlement, the paper added. It said that the United States has realised now that Israel is adamant in its position and does not offer any formulas for a lasting settlement; and therefore, Washington is called on to take serious moves and exercise pressure on Israel to accept peace and open the way for an international conference to achieve that goal.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily advocates the case of the Jordan Valley farmers whose crops were damaged by frost in the past three months. Salah Abdul Samad says the farmers suffered real losses due to the wave of frost but were happy later to hear the government announced a decision to compensate them for their loss. Any assistance to the farmers would be a welcome thing since it will help them overcome part of their difficulties and try to honour their commitments by paying their dues to the money-lending institutions and credit banks and interest on the loans, the writer notes. He says the farmers had been awaiting all this time to hear a summons from the Ministry of Agriculture to come forward and collect their compensation, but nothing has been done in this respect so far.

Al Dustour daily tackled the situation in the Lebanese capital Beirut in the wake of the new escalation of fighting between militias on both sides of the green line dividing the city. The paper described the situation as very dangerous since both sides in the conflict are not only exchanging accusations and counter charges but also using artillery shells and rocket fire which is raining down on residential areas, killing innocent people. The paper said that both sides are determined to pursue the fight and cause more and more destruction to Beirut and other areas of the embattled country, leaving the civilian population without food and water and exposing their lives to danger.

## 10 years of Camp David accords Despite peace, little evidence of normalcy

By Nejla Sammakia  
The Associated Press

CAIRO — Egypt and Israel have been on speaking terms for a decade, but it's the relationship of neighbours who keep a wary eye on each other.

On maps, Egypt is whole again. Under terms of the peace treaty signed March 26, 1979, the Israelis returned most of the Sinai in 1982, 15 years after it was occupied. They finished the turnover last Wednesday by pulling out of Taba, a tiny beach enclave on the Gulf of Aqaba.

Oil wells of Sinai and the Gulf of Suez, developed under Israeli occupation, pump money into Egypt, some of it from Israeli coffers. The United States, which under President Jimmy Carter sponsored the first peace between Arabs and Jews, is pouring more than \$2 billion annually into Egypt's economy. Even the Arab diplomatic boycott that the treaty sparked has ended except for Libya, Syria and Lebanon.

For the average Egyptian, however, there's little to show for Cairo's cool friendship with Israel except foodstands displaying juicier grapes, redder strawberries and fatter cucumbers.

But there's no talk, at least from those who rule, of going back. "Peace and peace. It is so important to the Israelis and Arabs," President Hosni Mubarak said after the Egyptian flag rose over Taba for the first time in 22 years. "It is worth whatever concessions."

He called for mutual flexibility

to solve the remaining central problem, which is the same reason that led to four Arab-Israeli wars: The Palestinian problem.

Butros Ghali, Mubarak's minister of state for foreign affairs, said Taba could be the key.

"Solving the Taba problem peacefully ... opens the door to joint action between Egypt and Israel to solve the Palestinian problem," he said.

Egyptian officials want Israel to change its policy, deal with the Palestine Liberation Organisation and give back the occupied Arab territories.

Where Israel is concerned, there's a general feeling of mistrust among Egyptians, bred of the four wars and many years of regarding Israel as the eternal enemy. In an era of the superpower cold war a few years ago, Ghali characterised Egypt's relations with Israel as "cold peace."

Plenty of Israeli tourists visit Egypt, but few Egyptians go the other way mainly because the government discourages travel to Israel.

Egyptians generally sympathise with the Palestinians, particularly since the anti-Israeli uprising began more than 15 months ago in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Israel often asks Egypt to implement fully the treaty's provisions designed to promote normalcy through such fields as trade, tourism and cultural exchanges. But experts on both sides say agricultural technology

is about the only field in which cooperation flourishes.

"The advantage of (working with) Israel is that our climatic conditions are similar," said Hany Abdul Nour, a businessman whose company sells irrigation techniques using innovative Israeli expertise.

He said most of his clients are former expatriate workers who have returned from Arab oil states with money to invest.

"They are broad-minded and ready to accept new techniques," Abdul Nour said. "Some people had reservations at the beginning, but after a while their misgivings vanished."

One businessman who has no qualms about using Israeli technology is a former ranking army officer who fought in the 1967 Middle East war, was captured and held for eight months as an Israeli prisoner-of-war.

The officer — he didn't want his name or rank used — grows grapes with Israeli know-how and equipment.

"This has no relation to war," the officer said. "My brother was killed in the war, so my hard feelings should be double, but I still take technology from them."

His family takes a less pragmatic approach. He said his wife "totally refuses" to socialise with her husband's Israeli colleagues.

Four years after then-President Anwar Sadat went to Israel, and two after he signed the peace treaty, Muslim extremists assassinated him in 1981 partly because of his closeness to the enemy.

Sadat's campaign to win over

Egyptians to the idea of peace with Israel included repeated promises of prosperity for a people shackled for years with spending huge amounts on war.

But rising inflation, aggravated by lower oil prices, mismanagement and corruption, has disappointed many Egyptians and dashed much of Sadat's dream, even though it can't be blamed on the treaty.

"I was against the whole peace move," said a young agriculture graduate who identified himself only as Ahmed. "I wasn't fooled that the treaty would bring prosperity. You can see there is no prosperity — quite the contrary."

Israel's dream of smooth relations will be put to the test in Taba. For the first time, Egyptian and Israeli employees will be working together in large numbers at a resort hotel that Egypt bought from its Israeli owner for \$37 million.

"I don't know how it'll be, working with Egypt," cook Alice Zerber said on the day of the Egyptian takeover. "I don't know whether I'll accept taking orders from them."

Egyptian law requires that 90 per cent of a firm's employees must be Egyptian, but it remains uncertain when or how that will be implemented.

About 20 waiters and cooks sent from Cairo arrived at the 326-room hotel only minutes after it became Egyptian and filed neatly into the poolside dining room to take instructions from their Israeli counterparts.

## Powerful S. Korean unions gear up for spring offensive

By Roger Crabb  
Reuter

organised labour. Labour rights have become an ultra-sensitive social issue, with more and more voices raised to charge that the country's robust growth has come at the expense of low pay for workers, long hours and poor working conditions.

A recent international labour office survey found South Korea still worked an average 54 hours weekly, many more than their industrial competitors.

Trade ministry officials say almost 180 companies were hit by disputes during January and February, at a cost to the country of about \$1.16 billion in domestic production and \$326 million in exports.

They said the stoppages were one major cause of a dramatic recent slump in South Korean export growth in the first two months of 1989.

The other factor in the decline was the stronger won as Seoul bowed to pressure and continued to revalue its currency, already appreciated more than 25 per cent in 1987-88.

Employers say the continually rising won — which has still not reached a level to satisfy the U.S. government — is reducing their competitive edge in export markets and making it even more difficult for them to meet the higher wage demands of an increasingly unionised workforce.

Companies, used to the respectful union attitudes under the controversial old legislation, are also finding the growth of new "democratic" unions much more difficult to handle.

The giant Hyundai group has seen a crippling dispute drag on for three months at its Ulsan shipyard in the south-east, with output paralysed as workers argue with managers but also amongst themselves.

Deputy Prime Minister Cho Soon last week urged both employers and workers to show restraint.

"We are standing at a crossroads with a choice of heading either to advanced nation status or back to underdevelopment," said Cho, the government's chief economic planner.

The United States long warned the Mujahideen rebels against producing and smuggling drugs to support their war effort against the Soviets. With the Soviets gone, the rebels are now attempting to overthrow the government of President Najibullah.

U.S. officials are concerned that amid a possible struggle among the various rebel factions, narcotics control might not be given a high priority.

"Current agricultural production is roughly half of the pre-war level, insufficient to support the existing population, let alone the large numbers of returning refugees," says James Phillips, a senior policy analyst at the conservative Washington think tank, the Heritage Foundation.

"Drug production could be a major problem," he said in an interview. "But perhaps I'm just more pessimistic than others." Another State Department Afghan expert, who spoke on condition

not to be identified by name, said the United States must wait for a central government to be formed to start any kind of comprehensive drug eradication or crop substitution programme.

But he took a more positive approach to the post-Soviet era.

The Agency for International Development (AID) has been involved in a pilot programme near the city of Jalabad.

"We're pleased with it," he said, claiming a "quite impressive" success with the local farmers and expressing hopes the pilot programme could be used elsewhere once calm is restored.

At present, however, cooperation can only be obtained in certain areas where rebel leaders are in control and sympathetic to such an approach, the official said.

"My sense is, the resistance leaders we work with are exceptionally sensitive to this, aware that it is a domestic issue in the United States," added the official.

## Afghan drug situation worries U.S.

By Susanne M. Schaffer  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. officials said that Afghanistan, already a principal opium producer, could become an even greater source of illicit narcotics on the wake of the Soviet troop withdrawal.

"Afghanistan... worries everyone who is interested in this issue," said Ann Wroblewski, the assistant secretary of state for narcotics affairs.

Wroblewski, in discussing the department's annual narcotics control report, said the problem was likely to be aggravated when the estimated three million to five million Afghan refugees return to their homeland.

In the wake of the destruction caused by the nine-year war against Soviet soldiers, traditional agriculture has been made nearly impossible in many regions.

"As we see refugees moving back into a war-torn country

where there is no strong central government, we are returning to a fairly easy, quick, profitable means of supporting themselves," Wroblewski said.

"Therefore, the prediction is that output of opium will increase out of Afghanistan, which then leads to a chain reaction of increased heroin moving through Pakistan," she added.

Throughout the opium-producing region that also includes Iran, Burma and Laos, "prospects are not good" for any reduction in the opium trade in the coming year, Wroblewski said.

With some 700 to 800 metric tonnes produced last year, Afghanistan second only to Burma in opium production in southern Asia, the report said.

Compounding U.S. government frustration at increasing worldwide opium supplies is the fact that about 90 per cent of the world's opium production takes place in areas in which the United States has little or no access — such as Afghanistan, Lebanon, and

Laos and Burma," the report said.

The United States long warned the Mujahideen rebels against producing and smuggling drugs to support their war effort against the Soviets. With the Soviets gone, the rebels are now attempting to overthrow the government of President Najibullah.

U.S. officials are concerned that amid a possible struggle among the various rebel factions, narcotics control might not be given a high priority.

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## Focus on people

### To be a woman of the field

By Mariam M. Shabir

"Women of the field trailing your tails over the sun-baked earth long robed and not exactly silent. Barefoot over the fertile path — landmarked by your seeds. Scarfed and Scarlet."

By Haya Husseini (Shades of Eve)

This week Leila Bisharat Halabi talks to Focus on people about her life in the Jordan Valley. She describes the differences in attitudes and lifestyles of people in the Jordan Valley as they compare to those in urban Amman.

Some 90 kilometres outside of Amman, on the way to the North Shuneh, lies Tal Al Arbeen. Leila Halabi has made this Jordan Valley village, which is only a seven minute drive from the archaeological site of Pella, her home. Born into a prominent family in the city of Salt and raised in private schools in Jerusalem, Bir Zeit and Cairo, Leila Halabi received the best education that a girl could get to the earlier part of the twentieth century.

She recalls: "In 1948 my family moved to Cairo, where my father continued his work in the horse trade. I was enrolled at the English school, a school that had been established by King George of England and had originally excluded Arab students. At that time it was a very exclusive school, I don't mean socially I mean academically and in terms of extracurricular activities. I took lessons in ballet, piano, hockey, long jump, net ball and was head of the social activities committee. 'Leila learned how to be independent and practical, and acquired what she described as a 'sportive spirit' in life.

Although she had planned to attend finishing school in Switzerland, Leila met and wed Raouf Halabi the year she graduated from high school. "I was a bride at 18, my husband was 16 years older than I was and I saw him as a tall, handsome stranger who swept me off my feet. He took me to the Jordan Valley and a new life began for me."

Raouf Halabi's livelihood was in the Jordan Valley where he owned and ran large citrus farms.

In the Jordan Valley, Leila Halabi's education continued. "Women in the Jordan Valley know nothing about satin slippers and silk negligees or designer make-up, nor are they familiar with envy and spite. Their minds are both inquisitive and youthful, and they never get bored. Once I started living in their midst, boredom, envy and spite became as foreign to me as these characteristics were to them."

The serene life that Leila Halabi had known in the Jordan Valley with her husband and three children, Hana, Issa and Omar, came to an abrupt end when on January 1, 1970 during one of regular early morning raids by the Israeli airforce into Jordan, Raouf Halabi was machine-gunned from the air at his home on the East Bank of the Jordan River. At 33, Leila Halabi was a widow, a mother of three young children and the "heiress" of responsibilities she had never dreamed of.

With the exception of brief interludes in Beirut where her children were educated, the woman that came to be known as Um Issa in the Jordan Valley, never really left her adopted home. "The Jordan Valley is our land, our home, our livelihood, it feeds the whole of Jordan. I often pity the privileged social cast that I was born into for their ignorance of nature, their inability to appreciate it, to dwell in it, learn from it and grow through it."

Um Issa is very saddened by the rather artificial social atmosphere that is constantly underlined by complaints and eternal boredom, that has developed among the "well to do" in urban Amman. "City people are not interested in country folk, they come to visit the valley and expect catering. They never bother to explore anything that is 'real' — the thorns, the snakes, or the vegetables."

The wealth of the villagers and the bedouins is something that most urbanites are either unaware of or simply chose to ignore. "People in the Jordan Valley are so rich in their folk tales, their dress and even their notions of romantic love. An old bedouin woman was once asked by a foreign writer about the bedouins' notion of love, and answered by saying that 'where we come from even the donkeys fall in love.' This notion of love spills over to other aspects of life in the Jordan Valley. Um Issa describes the valley's parent-child relationships as very healthy and explains that the cooperative spirit there as superb. "Unlike people in Amman, people in the valley listen to each other, they take the time out to talk. Mothers are not always busy playing bridge, doing aerobics or attending social gatherings. They spend time with their children."

Despite the social unacceptability of pre-marital relationships, Um Issa asserts that youngsters in the valley know everything about the practical aspects of life. "After all when a whole family lives in one or two rooms, they get to know the facts of life and never develop the complexes that youngsters from very sheltered homes often develop."

During the past 18 years Leila Halabi lived in Beirut, Amman and Tal Al Arbeen as a single woman, more precisely as a widow. Her "title" as she calls it, is one that she feels has made her a social outcast in many ways. "People in Jordan, in the Middle East and possibly everywhere have a very strange notion of widowed women, which, to say the least, is disturbing. Even family members only invite you to family parties, they never invite you to other social gatherings. They look and talk to you as if they feel sorry for you and always speak condescendingly. 'Oh Leila you have devoted so much to time to your children and your farm, you must think of yourself, why don't you get married again?'" Statements and questions such as these make me laugh."

Analysing herself and figuring out why in fact she chose not to marry Leila Halabi asserts: "I chose not to marry because I did not want to. I felt my children could never accept another man as their father and I came to enjoy my independence and the sense of accomplishment which I had not known before."

Many of Leila's friends and relatives wonder what it is that Leila does when she is in the Jordan Valley. "People always ask me that stupid question, 'What do you do in the valley?' What could I possibly be doing? I take care of my children and my house, I make preserves and take care of other responsibilities in the farm."

Leila is very grateful to the villagers for the healthy way of life they have taught her to lead. "They don't overcook their vegetables and meats, they use natural herb medicines and they make everyday events seem very spicy." Most of all, she says, "They are able to laugh at themselves."

Life in the Jordan Valley has changed since Leila first began living in the valley more than thirty years ago. Electricity was installed ten years back, and television has left a lasting impact on the valley's culture. "Now they know about what is happening in London and Bangladesh before I do. They also let me know how my son Issa does in car rallying competitions before I have a chance to find out from him," she says. "We have lots of little girls called Angels, Sue Ellen and Melissa in the valley who were named after TV personalities."

Lots of other changes have occurred in the valley in education and medical services, "a lot still remains to be desired", but according to Leila, "time and patience will give the Jordan Valley its deserved due."

Leila has called agriculture "the finest of all the arts, for it feeds us and allows us to grow." Looking back at her life in the valley, her dedication to the land and to her family she says she expects no praise and above all, she has no regrets, "the roots below the earth claim no reward for making the branches fruitful and neither do I."

## The rebuilding of Basra

By Maamoun Youssef  
Reuter

BASRA — Iraq's southern port of Basra, devastated by shelling during the Gulf war, plans to preserve the ruins of some schools and mosques to remind coming generations of the horrors of the conflict.

The country's second largest city, Basra was in the front line during Iraq's eight-year conflict with Iran.

A U.N.-sponsored truce last August halted the fighting in which hundreds of the city's one million residents died. Even be-

fore the guns fell silent, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein allocated \$5 billion for reconstruction.

"We have an unlimited budget," Basra Governor Anwar Saeed Al-Hadithi told correspondents. "Every state establishment will spend as much as required under the reconstruction plan to turn the city into the pearl of the Gulf."

Hussein asked Iraq's 17 other governors to assist.

Thousands of labourers with heavy equipment are at work, with the first phase of renovation due for completion in May.

Basra port authorities have also started to clear war debris from the Shatt Al-Arab waterway.

Hadithi said Basra's water, electricity and telephone networks should return to normal and most city streets should be repaved by May. Dredgers are also clearing six major water channels in the city.

### A reminder

The governor said the ruins of several shell-hit schools, mosques and churches would be preserved "to remind coming generations of

the horror of the war."

As the rebuilding of the city progresses, workers are planting new trees along a boulevard close to the Shatt Al-Arab, the confluence of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers leading to the Gulf.

In the waterway itself, giant cranes, tugs and dredgers are operating to clear the port and the stretch of river under Iraq's control.

Nearly 80 vessels ranging from old sailing dhows to ocean-going cargo ships were trapped in the Shatt Al-Arab by the war, many of the vessels submerged, rusting hulks.

Port officials said they had so far raised three Indian cargo ships and two dhows.

Transport and Communications Minister Mohammed Hamza Al-Zubeidi has said Iraq had bought a new \$13-million excavator to help dredge and deepen port anchorages.

The port before the war was



Iraq's main ocean outlet, while the Shatt Al-Arab was a major channel for oil exports from both Iraq and Iran.

## For some the 'American dream' comes true!

By Joan Mower  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — As he fled, wounded, through the jungles of Cambodia, Sihan Siv never could have imagined that at 13 years he would be a White House aide to an American president.

For Siv, 41, deputy assistant to President George Bush for public liaison, the "American Dream" is not a cliché. His almost-unbelievable story is the stuff of movies.

In a symbolic gesture, Siv

opted to start his job Feb. 13, the 13th anniversary of his escape from Cambodia. But, he said with a smile, the highlight of his 4-week-old tenure at the White House came when he met Bush last week, and the president "pronounced my name right (See-Chan Siv)."

In his new job, one of two deputies in the office, Siv is Bush's contact with ethnic and minority groups. He deals with issues like civil rights, education, and as an administrator with Care, the relief organisation. He was supposed to be evacuated from the U.S. embassy by helicopter, but missed the last flight out April 12, 1975, by 30 minutes. It took him until the following February to make his break.

During that time, Siv was forced to conceal his education from the Khmer Rouge, who were determined to stamp out the intelligentsia. And his decision to get to the Thai-Cambodian border meant a traumatic separation from his family.

Arriving in Thailand, Siv was jailed as an illegal entrant, but was later released and placed in a refugee camp. There, a Catholic relief group found a couple in Wallingford, Connecticut, willing to sponsor Siv. He arrived in the United States with \$2 in his pocket.

### Charisma

"He's a person with a great deal of charisma," said Bob Charles, the Wallingford housing consultant who brought Siv to the United States.

### Philosophy

It was his mother, a Buddhist,

whose philosophy helped him survive, Siv said.

The two things she told me are, 'as long as you live you must always have hope,' and, 'happiness is something you can't keep unless you give it away.'

Those are the basic values of life that I have always kept with me," he said in an interview.

Siv's new life, working in an ornate, high-ceilinged office at the White House complex, seems worlds away from the Cambodian bush.

With no assets, Siv picked apples and worked in an ice cream parlour before New York City beckoned. He drove a taxi there for six months and later got a job with the Lutheran immigration and refugee service.

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## Tea break in the battle of the books

The British Library, treasure trove of oriental manuscripts, is in danger of losing or damaging some of its possessions in a bureaucratic dispute over its planned move to a new site.

By Sejjid Rizvi

LONDON — The British Library, home to thousands of precious manuscripts and printed books from the Middle East and Asia, is at the centre of what only with great understatement may be termed an academic argument.

The library, actually a constellation of 19 separate buildings in and outside London, is preparing to move into a brand-new multimillion-dollar complex be-

ginning 1993. With most of the space at the new site, near Central London's St. Pancras station, expected to be shared by 11 million books and staff looking after them, competition among departments has peaked as building work has progressed.

The library's massive oriental division at Store Street, near the Oxford Street shopping district, is the single most vulnerable collection, according to academics currently engaged in a debate on its

future. Proposals to move the oriental collection to the India Office Library building a few kilometres away provoked some of the loudest howls of protest.

Academic critics feared the transfer, ostensibly to save costs, might be a thinly disguised attempt to deprive the oriental library of the pride of place in the main complex. Other academics argued the transfer would make the combined Middle Eastern and Asian collections of India Office and British libraries the best in the world.

Bot the building is needed to house the library's administrative offices and save rent currently paid for premises in the fashionable but exorbitantly priced Soho in London's West End. If the collection moves to India Office Library and then again to the new complex before the end of the century, critics say, manuscripts may be lost, books may see damage and scholars from all over the world may be deprived of motifs of research into the material.



An example of restoration work on a Chinese scroll at the British Library's Conservation Studio in London.

Yasin H. Safadi, deputy director of the British Library's oriental collection, with an illuminated Quran copied in Egypt in the early 14th century AD (704 AH).

usually arranged in advance. Possible damage

Damage may be caused to unique and irreplaceable treasures of international importance by a second (and possibly a third) move within two decades," a letter from British Middle Eastern scholars to *The Times* warned. The collection was originally housed in the British Museum and in 1980 was moved to the Store Street site.

The so-called British Library was created in July 1973 by an act

of parliament and merged several key institutions of eastern learning in Britain. In the bargain it attracted many donations from people who felt the library would best preserve items left for years in the attics. No price tag has ever been placed on the library's posses-

sions, nor is one likely to be placed. The insurance costs of soh an exercise, academics say, would cripple the British Library, currently funded by government grants and sales of books and services. Admission to the library remains free. — Academic File.

## A maestro comes to Jordan

AMMAN — The career of National Symphony Orchestra Music Director Mstislav Rostropovich has been distinguished by an enviable diversity, bringing him recognition as conductor, cellist, and pianist; as one of today's most important catalysts for the creation of contemporary music, and as one of the world's most outspoken defenders of human rights. For his many achievements, but particularly for accomplishments with the National Symphony, Maestro Rostropovich was named Musical America's 1987 Musician of the Year. Among the other accolades that were presented during the year of his 60th birthday were the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit of West Germany, Commander of France's Legion of Honor, Honorary Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, and, from the United States, the Presidential Medal of Freedom. His 60th birthday was also celebrated with gala concerts and festivals in Washington, New York, Boston, Paris, London, and Tokyo, as well as a musical cruise in the Mediterranean. In 1988 he was made a member of the Académie des Arts of the French Institute, often called "the Forty Immortals."

Maestro Rostropovich's career as conductor began in the Soviet Union in 1961. He was active in this capacity throughout the

Soviet Union and Eastern Europe for many years before making his United States conducting debut in 1975. On October 4, 1977, he became music director of the National Symphony Orchestra, which today has taken a place among America's finest orchestras, a fact largely attributed to his leadership. Critics on four continents have praised the "transformation" of the National Symphony during his tenure. His major achievements include: extensive touring of the United States and abroad, critically acclaimed recordings, and six years of nationally broadcast concerts, the first in the Orchestra's history. Under Maestro Rostropovich's guidance, the Orchestra has commissioned works by some of the world's most distinguished composers and has begun, with the Sidney L. Hescher Foundation, a commissioning project designed to create new orchestral works, with special encouragement given to American composers. The first of the Hescher Commissions, Stephen Albert's Symphony RiverRun, won the 1985 Pulitzer Prize for Music.

As cellist, Maestro Rostropovich's artistry has been recognised for four decades. Considered by many to be the world's greatest living cellist, he has recorded virtually the entire cello repertoire and has inspired some

of this era's finest composers to create works especially for him. As pianist, Maestro Rostropovich often accompanies his wife, the acclaimed soprano Vishnevskaya, in recital. His extensive discography also includes many performances in that role, and together they have toured the globe.

In all his performing areas, Maestro Rostropovich has been one of today's most positive forces for the creation of contemporary music. The list of those who have written for him is enormous, including Shostakovich, Prokofiev, Britten, and Bernstein. He is viewed as a leading interpreter of the works of Shostakovich and Prokofiev, with whom he shared personal, as well as professional relationships. His equally close association with Benjamin Britten is perpetuated through his participation in the Aldeburgh Festival, which Britten founded and of which Maestro Rostropovich is an artistic director.

One of the world's most outspoken defenders of human and artistic freedoms, Maestro Rostropovich has devoted many performances in support of humanitarian efforts around the world. In recognition of his services to human rights, Maestro Rostropovich received the 1974 Annual Award of the International League of Human Rights and the 1985 Albert Schweitzer Award.

Under the Patronage of Their Royal Highnesses The Crown Prince and Princess Sarvath The Young Women's Muslim Association has the honour to present Mstislav Rostropovich The Grand Master of the Cello in concert at the Royal Cultural Centre on Saturday 25th March 1989 at 7.30 pm. For further information and tickets contact Mrs Christina Fox between 10.00 am — 1.00 pm on 649189. Cost of ticket JD. 20. All proceeds to go to the YWMA Centre for the special education of handicapped children.



Mstislav Rostropovich

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# PLAZA

1989

# TIMES

Friday

SUNDAY & EVERYDAY  
Luncheon Buffet  
at the  
Coffee Shop



JD. 6,500 Adults  
JD. 3,500 Children

Saturday

Prime Rib  
Night  
at the  
Coffee Shop

Prime Rib  
Yorkshire Pudding  
Baked Potato, Vegetables  
Selection of Sweets  
JD. 6,500 pp



Sunday

Jumbo Shrimp  
Night  
at the  
Andalusia

Sea Food Cocktail  
Shrimps, Grilled, Deep Fried,  
or Provengal  
Selection of Sweets  
JD. 10,000 pp



Monday

Spanish Paella  
Night  
at the  
Coffee Shop

Sea Food Soup  
Traditional Paella  
(Rice, Shrimp, Hamour &  
Calamari etc.)  
Selection of Sweets  
JD. 6,500 pp



Tuesday

Steak Night  
at the  
Coffee Shop

Charcoal Broiled Steak  
Green Salad  
Baked or Fried Potato  
Vegetables  
Selection of Sweets  
JD. 6,500 pp

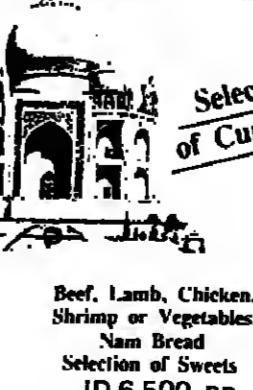


Wednesday

Indian Buffet  
Night  
at the  
Coffee Shop

Selection  
of Curries

Beef, Lamb, Chicken,  
Shrimp or Vegetables,  
Naan Bread  
Selection of Sweets  
JD. 6,500 pp

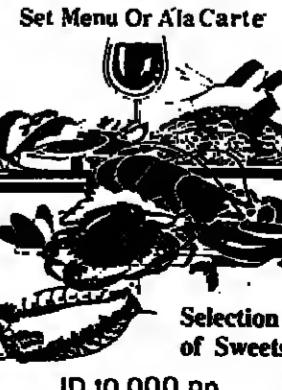


Thursday

Sea Food  
Night  
at the  
Andalusia

Set Menu Or à la Carte

Selection  
of Sweets  
JD. 10,000 pp



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## Independent oil producers continue to support OPEC

BOULDER, Colorado (R) — Oil nations outside OPEC are eager to continue to help the group to curb excess supply and buoy prices beyond the April-June quarter for which cutbacks are already agreed, officials of those nations said.

At an energy conference, some sources with the non-OPEC group said it would hold strategy talks between now and June.

But they said one uncertainty was whether OPEC (the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) would raise the ceiling on its own supply, now 18.5 million barrels per day (b/d), in the second half of 1989.

Nine non-OPEC nations agreed to cut or restrain their supply in the April-June quarter — action likely to take about 300,000 b/d out of the market — only after OPEC sharply curbed its excess production.

"It is clear that the cooperative feeling will continue and there will be meetings perhaps this month or next," said Rashid Ibn Khalid Al Barwani, Oman's oil marketing director.

"I think the cooperation will be

Soviet Union and Brunei are non-OPEC sellers that agreed to trim exports by five per cent or at least avoid increasing their market share at OPEC expense.

Now, officials say, the question is what to do if OPEC decides in June to lift its ceiling above 18.5 million b/d because of a perception that oil demand will stay strong.

"We don't know what the market will be yet in the second half of the year," Oman's Al Barwani explained.

They said these countries plan a formal meeting in May to discuss world oil markets in the second half of 1989 but that earlier, informal discussions are also planned.

Herman Franssen, a former International Energy Agency chief economist who acts as advisor to Oman, said at the energy conference that the objective of stabilising prices at about \$18 a barrel was being achieved.

Angola, China, Colombia, Egypt, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, North Yemen, Norway, the

ports from last year's level of around 540,000 b/d.

Mexico was also willing to go along with slightly lower exports as domestic demand rises. And it might have trouble expanding production anyway.

Petroleos Mexicanos state oil company planning coordinator Jaime Villars said Mexico has agreed to keep exports of crude oil and products at about 1.3 million b/d, down from 1.375 million b/d in 1988.

Willars said this level would be reconsidered in the next few months but there were other constraints of any major change.

With revenues needed to service the nation's foreign debt, Mexico would only have \$1.5 billion to reinvest in oil this year, enough to maintain output at current levels.

"Shadow" OPEC countries can influence OPEC countries if they continue their restraint," said John Sauer, head of planning for Dupont Co's Conoco Inc.

But Sauer said that OPEC, with its huge reserves and production capacity, remains dominant.

they will tighten some more before summer."

The Fed has gradually raised interest rates by more than three percentage points over the past year in an effort to cool the economy and restrain inflationary pressure.

President Bush said the smaller increase in consumer prices should lessen fears of a sharp rise in inflation, adding that he would not like to see U.S. economic growth choked off by high interest rates.

"I don't want to see any actions taken that are going to kill off the growth in our economy," Bush told reporters in a brief question and answer session at the White House.

Although denying any policy differences with the central bank, Bush seemed to be signalling the previous two years.

Even though the February increase cheered financial markets because it was lower than expected, economists said the inflation rate is still too high.

"We are not out of the woods as far as inflation is concerned," said economist Kathryn Kobe of Joel Popkin and Co., a Washington forecasting firm.

Last month's slowdown in consumer price increase reflected more modest gains in food, tobacco, entertainment and energy prices and a drop in clothing prices, the department said.

The so-called core rate of inflation, which excludes the erratic prices of food and energy, also rose 0.4 per cent in February after a 0.5 per cent rise in January.

Lukman told Reuters that non-OPEC ministers have been invited to meet the eight members of OPEC's monitoring committee which convenes on March 29 in Vienna.

"We want to use this opportunity to meet representatives ... of non-OPEC oil producers," he said. "We have invited the non-OPEC. We haven't got a final response yet from the secretary general (of OPEC) but he is arranging something."

Lukman said he did not know which non-OPEC producers were likely to respond to the OPEC invitation.

He also declined comment on the whether non-OPEC producers which had undertaken to restrict supply in the second quarter of this year would go on doing that after June.

"Let's do the second quarter first," he said.

Output around quotas

Lukman said the group is now producing oil at around its quota of 18.5 million b/d.

Asked if the total was within this agreed ceiling, he said, "I should think so, give or take a couple of percentage points."

OPEC's news agency OPEC-NA said Monday that February's OPEC output, calculated as domestic consumption plus exports sales and stock withdrawals, was down to 17.4 million b/d for 12 members excluding the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The UAE has an OPEC-assigned quota of 988,000 b/d but it called it unfair and has exceeded it in the past. It submitted no figures to OPEC officials reviewing February output, OPEC-NA said, but the Middle East Economic Survey Monday estimated UAE output up at 1.5 million b/d in that month.

Lukman said of UAE output, "we can estimate what the UAE is doing. We don't know for sure. Maybe they're doing somewhat



Rilwanu Lukman

Lukman awaits response

Meanwhile OPEC President Rilwanu Lukman of Nigeria said ministers from all exporting states outside OPEC have been invited to meet key OPEC ministers but a final response is still awaited.

Lukman told Reuters that non-OPEC ministers have been invited to meet the eight members of OPEC's monitoring committee which convenes on March 29 in Vienna.

"We want to use this opportunity to meet representatives ... of non-OPEC oil producers," he said. "We have invited the non-OPEC. We haven't got a final response yet from the secretary general (of OPEC) but he is arranging something."

Lukman said he did not know which non-OPEC producers were likely to respond to the OPEC invitation.

He also declined comment on the whether non-OPEC producers which had undertaken to restrict supply in the second quarter of this year would go on doing that after June.

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Lukman said of UAE output, "we can estimate what the UAE is doing. We don't know for sure. Maybe they're doing somewhat

over their quota but not very much."

Lukman declined to comment on the prospect of OPEC adopting a higher output ceiling in the second half of 1989.

Honouring ceilings

In Caracas, Venezuela Energy and Mines Minister Celestino Armas said Tuesday that OPEC nations must honour their output quotas during the critical second quarter if they hope to hold on to gains in oil prices since November.

"The critical moment for OPEC will begin on the first of April, when demand begins to fall and we must resist the temptation to increase production levels," Armas told a news conference.

Armas said OPEC producers should adjust their supply to the lower second-quarter demand in order to keep prices stable.

The upward trend in oil prices is due to OPEC discipline, cooperation from non-OPEC oil producers and the reduction of supply from accidents on North Sea platforms.

A drop in demand from next month, however, will send prices down, Gimanjar said.

"I don't believe the price in the second quarter will be as good as now. I'm worried that after May and June the price will drop," he said.

Analysts said the crude rally was also supported by higher prices for petroleum products, which rose on anticipation of strong petrol demand this summer and a stricter U.S. petrol vapour pressure rule, which will tighten stocks.

\$20 a barrel as the bullish mood that lifted prices nearly 10 per cent last week resurfaced.

"The whole floor is bullish," said one trader during active afternoon trading. The rise came after a big drop Monday that was linked to technical factors within the market.

The benchmark U.S. crude, West Texas Intermediate for May delivery, ended the day up 71 cents at \$20.05 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

North Sea Brent blend for May delivery, the most widely traded international crude, was quoted at \$18.50 a barrel, a gain of 55 cents from Monday and its highest level in 15 months.

Traders attributed the climb in crude prices to rising petrol and heating oil prices, optimism that non-OPEC producers will reduce output, and indications that the 13 nations of OPEC are sticking to their production limits.

"We're pretty much back on track, the market looks ready strong," said one trader Tuesday.

Analysts said the crude rally was also supported by higher prices for petroleum products, which rose on anticipation of strong petrol demand this summer and a stricter U.S. petrol vapour pressure rule, which will tighten stocks.

## Interest rate pressure eases in U.S.

WASHINGTON (R) — A smaller than expected rise in U.S. consumer prices last month signalised less inflation than previously feared and eased pressure on the Federal Reserve (Fed) to raise interest rates, economists said.

The consumer price index, the most widely used inflation gauge, rose a moderate 0.4 per cent in February after jumping 0.6 per cent in January, the Labour Department said Tuesday.

Although inflationary pressures still abound in the economy, the more moderate rise in prices makes it less likely that the Fed will move swiftly to tighten credit another notch, economists said.

"This takes some of the pressure off them," said economist Cynthia Latta of Data Resources, a Massachusetts-based economic forecasting firm. "But I think that

they will tighten some more before summer."

The Fed has gradually raised interest rates by more than three percentage points over the past year in an effort to cool the economy and restrain inflationary pressure.

President Bush said the smaller increase in consumer prices should lessen fears of a sharp rise in inflation, adding that he would not like to see U.S. economic growth choked off by high interest rates.

"I don't want to see any actions taken that are going to kill off the growth in our economy," Bush told reporters in a brief question and answer session at the White House.

Although denying any policy differences with the central bank, Bush seemed to be signalling the previous two years.

Even though the February increase cheered financial markets because it was lower than expected, economists said the inflation rate is still too high.

"We are not out of the woods as far as inflation is concerned," said economist Kathryn Kobe of Joel Popkin and Co., a Washington forecasting firm.

Last month's slowdown in consumer price increase reflected more modest gains in food, tobacco, entertainment and energy prices and a drop in clothing prices, the department said.

The so-called core rate of inflation, which excludes the erratic prices of food and energy, also rose 0.4 per cent in February after a 0.5 per cent rise in January.

The upward trend in oil prices is due to OPEC discipline, cooperation from non-OPEC oil producers and the reduction of supply from accidents on North Sea platforms.

Airbus Industrie said in a statement the financial director would be responsible for ensuring full and open accounts throughout the group, forcing the Airbus partners for the first time to divulge their costs.

The slimmed-down supervisory board will continue as the main overall policy control body, with responsibility over strategic decisions concerning current and future Airbus programmes.

All changes will take effect

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## CHURCH CONCERT

At the Evangelical Lutheran Good Shepherd Church on Friday March 24 at 5 p.m.

— Choir from Finland (16 singers)

— Choir (Arabic) from local Baptist Church

Entrance free

The church is located in Um Al-Summaq close to Mecca Street - 50 metres from Um Al-Summaq's Municipality

For more information pls call Rev. Numan Smir, tel. 811295 or Rev. Veil Jarvinen, tel. 822605.

## MINISTRY OF EDUCATION TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

The contractors who had been qualified previously for the Seventh Education Project and willing to participate in the following bid are requested to get bid documents from the Projects and Buildings Directorate, Ministry of Education from 20-3-1989 with the following conditions:

A. The Seventh Education Project is partially financed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

B. Description of Tender. Price Tender Bond JD JD

1. Tender No. 48/D/88 construction of school buildings in Fadian

Area (4130) Sq. M. 150 10000

C. Last date for purchasing copies of tender documents is 4.5.1989

D. Last date for submitting financial offers is 13.5.1989 at 12.00 noon at the Ministry of Education.

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All denominations welcome

Chaplain: Revd William Taylor

Tel: 028543

## EXPECTATION AND REALITY IN THE NEW HOMELAND INVITATION

On the occasion of Family Day and within the cultural activities of the

### Jordanian-Turkish Friendship Association

A meeting on the subject of

### Problems of Foreign Women in their new Homes

Will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday 25th March 1989, in the

Hall of the Jordanian-Turkish Friendship Association

Rainbow Street, Tel. 639918

The speakers will be:

Mrs. Nijmeh Hikmat,

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### England and Scotland champions to play in Dubai

DUBAI (AP) — Liverpool take on Celtic of Glasgow April 4 in an England-Scotland league champions' clash at the Al-Maktoum stadium. At stake in the winner-takes-all game will be £10,000 (\$17,000) and the Dubai Champions Cup. Both British teams have played before in Dubai. Liverpool beat Celtic on penalties in the inaugural England-Scotland Super-Cup in 1986. The Dubai Champions Cup match was set for late 1988 but was postponed because of the two teams' other commitments. On April 16, four present and past international stars are due to take part in the Toyota six-a-side tournament in Dubai. Argentina star Osvaldo Ardiles, Zbigniew Boniek of Poland and Dutch pair Johan Neeskens and Rudd Krol are slated to play as members of four expatriate sides in the one-day contest. Italian Francesco Garziani was taking part in the tournament but had to pull out because of injury, the organizers said.

### Arsenal title hopes dealt another blow

LONDON (R) — Arsenal's English first division soccer title ambitions were dealt another blow Tuesday as Charlton, two from the bottom, cashed in the latest bout of jitters to snatch a 2-2 draw. Leaders Arsenal have taken only six points out of a possible 18 from their last six league games. They are now only three points clear of nearest challengers Norwich, but the latter have two games in hand and also have to play at Arsenal. Liverpool, with three games in hand of Arsenal, are 11 points adrift but on current form represent a clear danger.

### Chromium could replace steroids

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A new form of chromium could help athletes beef up their bodies without dangerous anabolic steroids, enable diabetics to use less insulin and cut cholesterol, a researcher said Tuesday. Gary Evans, a chemistry professor at Bemidji State University in Minnesota, discussed the possible benefits of "chromium picolinate" during a meeting of the Federation of the American Societies for Experimental Biology. Two studies at Bemidji State found that the compound "bulked up" muscle and cut down body fat, he said. In one study, football players on the same exercise programmes took either chromium picolinate or a placebo. Those taking the chromium picolinate showed an average 42 per cent greater growth in lean body mass and a 22 per cent drop in total body fat, compared to a 1.06 per cent for the control group, he said. "When used in recommended quantities, it appears that chromium picolinate achieves the results similar to those of anabolic steroids, and that the nutrient is a safe, effective substitute," he said.

### WBA champion Esparragoza all right for title bout

TOKYO (AP) — World Boxing Association featherweight champion Antonio Esparragoza of Venezuela and Japanese challenger Mitsuhiro Sugiyama passed physical examination Wednesday for their upcoming title bout. Both are "all right" for Wednesday's scheduled 12-round fight at an arena outside Tokyo, said doctor Akira Kimura, who examined both fighters. Esparragoza, 31, is making his fourth defence of the title he won from American Steve Cruz in 1987.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF

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### WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold: ♦S 8764 ♠AK5 ♣Q762 Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond? What action do you take?

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: ♦S 83 ♠AK65 ♠72 ♣KJ762 Partner opens the bidding with three spades. What action do you take?

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold: ♦J83 ♠Q6 ♣AQ762 ♣K52 The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass What do you bid now?

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold: ♦S 83 ♠AJ95 ♠AK7652 ♣K103 For information about Charles Goren's newsletter for bridge players, write Goren Bridge Letter, P.O. Box 4426, Orlando, Fla. 32802-4426.

By Harris

HARRIS 2-28



## JUMBLE

THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LECCY

ADGUY

MAYLIF

EXLUE



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: PRIOR GLOAT PURVEY TURBAN  
Answer: He was so lazy he didn't have a rap, even when this did—OPPORTUNITY

## Jordan rally set for Friday

AMMAN (J.T.) — "Excellent, dust free" conditions are expected for Friday's Jordan National Rally as last week's heavy rains, which postponed the event for one week, have actually helped in compacting tracks for the Friday event, according to a press release by the Royal Automobile Club of Jordan (RACJ).

Twenty-eight cars have already registered for the Konica-sponsored event which is due to start at the RACJ at 9:30 a.m. Among the leading competitors are Royal Jordanian's Issa Halabi with co-driver Leith Al Qassem in addition to George Khayyat with his co-driver His Royal Highness Prince Faisal, both teams driving Nissans. Other contenders include Nabil Dirani in an Opel Manta and Mohammad Sbeitan in another Nissan.

During Friday's event, His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah will test his new Mercedes rally car but will not compete in the event.

The press release says newcomer Sharif Hussein Bin Nasser is expected to make his debut in car rallying having taken over the Toyota Corolla with which his elder brother Sharif Jamil won the 1988 group A championship.

According to the same release, one of the best venues for the event will be the Royal Racing Club at Tumeib where a special stage has been prepared in the centre of the horse racing track. The first car is expected to arrive there at 4:00 p.m.

Other popular points for spectators include the Um Qasair village where cars will be arriving starting 10:00 a.m., as well as the beginning of the Latoum stage near Wadi Muqil, south of Dibabah village, at 1:30 p.m. The Zizzi railway station, which marks the end of the last special stage, is another point for spectators where cars are expected to arrive at 4:30 p.m.

The Konica photographic competition will be held, as scheduled, for the best action pictures and photos that capture the rally atmosphere. The competition is open to all members of the public and is free of charge.

The RACJ advises spectators to stand well away from the track since cars will be travelling at high speeds, causing both gravel and dust to fly as they pass by.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1989

## YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

— As Chanted By The Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Be prepared for an electrifying day full of surprises. A lot can be accomplished if you are not concerned with schedules. The best plan may be no plan at all.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A positive change in a new direction starts. Unique ideas help to build a new plan of action. Your popularity is high.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Trying to push others may be disappointing. Stick to established procedures in the near future. Take advantage of social opportunities.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Anger may not be the best way to get your own way. New dynamics in your personality will work wonders if you remain calm.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Argumentative situations will pass quickly leaving a pleasant afternoon and evening. You are entering a superior creative period.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Art in your own best interest and don't waste time on trivial pursuits. Resentment and jealousy block your enjoyment of friends.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You feel independent, enthusiastic and full of life. Seek out the good things that surround you. Take note of a special person in your life.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) The emotional cycle is low and can lead to outbursts and aggravation with

your mate and those close to you. Stay positive and avoid confrontations.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) What has worked for you in the past can be used to evaluate future plans. Learn from past mistakes. Separate fact from fiction.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You have earned respect from those you work with. Accept an invitation to a social event that may have possible business connections.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Demonstrate your social skills. Make plans early in the day, or you may be left with lots of energy and nowhere to go.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A chronic complainer can wreck your day if you let it happen. Time to unique ideas, and communications that are useful.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You feel independent, enthusiastic and full of life. Seek out the good things that surround you. Take note of a special person in your life.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You are attractive, appealing and you can use these qualities to your advantage. Ease financial difficulties through reduced spending.

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1989

GENERAL TENDENCIES: It is best not to set on any conclusion that you draw today. Give yourself an emotional break, clear the air, settle down, collect your thoughts, enjoy companions, and get some rest.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Clear up any loose ends left over from yesterday. Maintain control over a young family member's school work. Plan an evening love-in.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You feel companionable and have good taste. Shop for personal apparel and accessories. Make a day of it and rendezvous with a friend.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Let important matters rest for the day. Focus on family and friendly meetings. This is ripe for some imaginative fiction.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Lend a sympathetic ear to a good friend who is too proud to ask for help. Engage in activities that are physically challenging.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Looking at both sides of the picture will help you to understand a career problem. It may be necessary to lower expectations.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Actions taken today will have to be

tempered if you are to succeed. Use a gentle approach to get what you want.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Money matters are not the brightest. Sharpen the pencil and straighten out the budget. Start now to plan for future vacations.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Your upbeat mood will be pleasing to everyone around you. Give yourself a pat on the back for recent progress.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Worry over a legal problem will not change it. Take the matter to a professional. Evening relaxation is recommended.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Recreational activities are not satisfying your need for an emotional release. Select new activities that fit your style.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You can take a leadership role if offered. Working with young people and making rewards and fun possible will be satisfying.

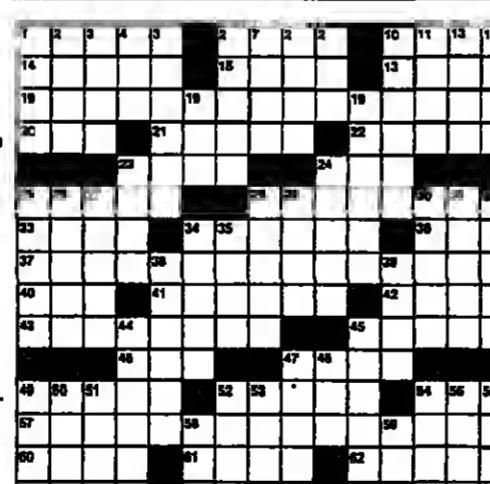
PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) The question of whether there is someone else can lead to jealousy and ultimate tension. Satisfy your self-esteem and build confidence.

PICTURES BY CARROLL RIGHTER

PICTURES BY CARROLL RIGHTER

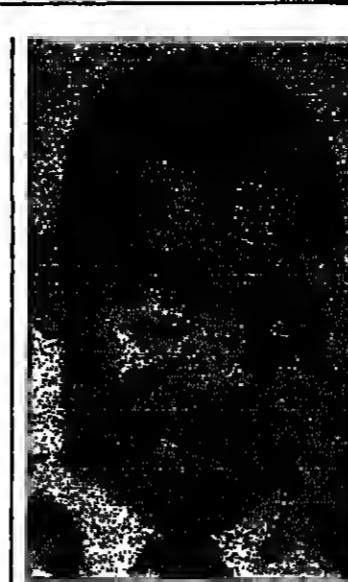
## THE Daily Crossword

by Samuel K. Filegner



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

COOT	SCAM	COOM
HAMM	EACH	BUDDY
DAFFY	ALTO	RIGHT
PERFORMED	POOT	
CHIN	ARM	REIN
STOLE	COOPT	
AUDIT	FEES	OBIGA
BRICE	PETS	EDIE
GEE	CHEW	ANTIE
TAB	SPICED	NEW
ABLY	THUG	WARE
GIVE	REGA	PRENT
KEEKS	FRUIT	TRACK



## Agassi falls to Steeb

KEY BISCAYNE (R) — Top seeds Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia and Argentine Gabriela Sabatini posted comfortable straight set wins Tuesday, but third seed Andre Agassi crashed out in the first round of the \$2.1-million international players championship.

Agassi, ranked fourth in the world, turned in a lackluster performance as he fell to 96-ranked West German Carsten Steeb 6-4, 7-5, 6-0. The 18-year-old American, who dropped eight straight games from 5-5 in the second set, said that he was never in the match mentally.

Sixth-seeded American Tim Mayotte also failed to reach the second round. Mayotte, ranked 11th, lost a serve-and-volley duel 6-3, 6-3, 6-2 to New Zealand's Kelly Evernden.

World number one Lendl was never in danger as he drilled

about one inch from moving into the top echelon. She played great tennis today," said Shriver.

Slobodan Zivojinovic of Yugoslavia, seeded 18, and 19th-seeded American Barbara Potter withdrew from a tournament for the fourth time this year with a back injury and Australian Wendy Turnbull defaulted just three points into her match with Italian Laura Garrone when she tore a muscle in her right leg.

Agassi, who won six titles and vaulted from 25th to third in the world last year, has not reached a tournament final in 1989.

"Expectations are high. A lot of things are going on in a player's mind and a true champion can sort those out and overcome them," said Agassi.

## Johnson's agent moves to drop him

TORONTO (R) — Ben Johnson's Canadian agent said Tuesday that he may soon drop the sprinter as a client in light of testimony at the government drugs inquiry that indicated Johnson used banned anabolic steroids.

"Given the current information... the testimony of Charlie Francis and Angella and Tony Isajenko, I don't think I will be able to work for Ben in the future," agent Glen Calkins said in an interview with Canadian Press, Canada's national news agency.

"I've got my own integrity and I have to be confident that when I work for a client he has integrity. My credibility is on the line."

In sworn testimony earlier this month, Johnson's coach, Francis, said the disgraced Olympian was a willing participant in a steroid programme since 1981.

Johnson's team-mate, Angella Isajenko, and her husband Tony, a former sprinter, also testified Johnson used steroids.

The three also said they had injected him with the drug on several occasions.

Calkins, who has handled Johnson's Canadian business interests for the past couple of years, has been called to testify at the inquiry. Because of that he declined to comment directly on evidence heard at the inquiry.

Calkins said representing any athlete who has run afoul of the rules of sport or the laws of the land is difficult.

"It presents a problem," he said. "Corporations are touchy on this sort of thing. In the case where someone has taken steroids or broken the rules, I'm not here to judge but you just can't expect to be marketed or promoted to corporate clients."

Calkins also represents former Canadian skiers Laurie Graham and Todd Brooker and current national Alpine team members Lucie Laroche and Michelle McKendry.

"There are out there so many legitimate athletes, like Michelle, Lucie and Todd and Laurie. They've done really well. They haven't broken any rules. I want to represent Canada's heroes."

Most of Johnson's sponsorship contracts prior to his disqualification from the Seoul Olympics were handled by American agent Larry Heidebrecht.

again with a 17-4 run.

Moses Malone scored 20 points and Dominique Wilkins, who hit three of 18 shots,

## 116 nations adopt toxic waste treaty

BASLE, Switzerland (R) — Most of the world's governments adopted a U.N.-sponsored treaty Wednesday to check the proliferating trade in hazardous waste.

Delegates broke into applause a 16-nation conference unanimously approved the document.

A smaller number were due to sign it later. A spokesman for the African group said their governments intended to consult with each other later in the year before signing but added that the group approved the treaty.

"Our agreement has not halted the commerce in poison," U.N. Undersecretary-General Mostafa Tolba told the conference.

"But it has signalled the international resolve to eliminate the menace hazardous wastes pose to the welfare of our shared en-

vironment and to the health of all the world."

Malian Environment Minister Moryfing Kone said on behalf of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) that African nations wanted the OAU to pronounce on the treaty before they would sign. The OAU has expressed outrage at foreign waste dumping in Africa.

He said it would be considered at a meeting in Bamako, Mali, in May or June.

Developing nations had clammed up for the pact in order to wait for what they called "garbage imperialism," the dumping of the

industrialised world's waste on their territory.

But environmentalists charged that the agreement contained many loopholes through which the multi-billion-dollar waste trade would continue.

Greenpeace activists scaled the face of a building opposite the hall where the delegates were meeting and hung an enormous yellow banner: "Danger Basel convention legalises toxic

trade."

Some African delegates said more needed to be done, but many delegates said the treaty was the best that could be hoped for given different demands by richer and poorer nations.

"Ninety per cent of what could be done has been done," said Kenyan Environment Minister J.J.M. Nyagah. "We have some-

thing to build on."

Momentum for the negotiations built last year when 4,000 tonnes of Italian toxic waste were found oozing from barrels in an unprotected site in Nigeria.

That incident brought other schemes to light by which companies in countries with strict environmental laws were paying handsomely for their poisonous substances to be disposed of in countries with more lax rules or none at all.

At the heart of the treaty are provisions that waste exports only be allowed to countries which will handle them safely.

"Each party shall require that hazardous wastes or other wastes, to be exported, are managed in an environmentally sound manner in the state of import or elsewhere," it stipulates.

The convention will come into force three months after 20 countries have ratified it.

Improperly disposed of, hazardous wastes such as dioxin and DDT can contaminate soil, groundwater and the air, causing a range of health problems from cancer to serious birth defects.

Several organisations that closely followed the negotiations said, however, that many of the provisions were vague and governments would be able to continue the waste trade by means of bilateral agreements outside the convention.

Such agreements are allowed but any trade under them must be "environmentally sound."

"International waste trade will flourish under this convention," Greenpeace delegate Jim Valler told Reuters.

The convention will come into force three months after 20 countries have ratified it.

## Polish Sejm starts reviewing reforms

any legislation agreed upon by the party leadership is assured of eventual passage.

The constitutional changes are part of a compromise both sides are negotiating at the talks that began Feb. 6 and are scheduled to end April 3 with the signing of a new "social contract" to set Poland's future course.

During the parliament's two-day session, government and opposition teams focusing on the economy and the mass media scheduled meetings to see if they could remove remaining differences.

In exchange for restoring Solidarity's status as the first independent trade union in the East Bloc, the government hopes for a period of political stability.

They hope that such stability will improve chances for economic recovery — controls already have been loosened on private entrepreneurs — and make Western lenders sympathetic to Poland's staggering foreign debt and current investment needs.

Spokesmen for the opposition, led by the banned Solidarity trade union, protested last week that draft bills were sent to the parliament before full discussion at the talks with the government.

But the government promised the legislation could still be amended.

Because the parliament is controlled by the Communist Party, said during the parliament debate.

## Column 10

### Thatcher declares war

LONDON (R) — It's clear to many and now the government has made it official: Britain is dirty, and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is determined to do something about it. Using doggerel to launch a clean-up crusade. Thatcher announced Saturday: "We are declaring war on litter: Bag it and bin it and that way we'll win it." She pledged that laws to impose tough new controls on pollution and waste disposal will be part of a "green bill" to be introduced in Parliament later in the year. Laughter and applause greeted her rhyme at a Conservative Party conference she was addressing in the resort of Scarborough, north-east England. Minutes earlier the meeting heard blunter words from Environment Secretary Nicholas Ridley. "We are indeed a dirty nation," he said. "Our streets, our road and motorways, our railway lines and stations, the outskirts of our towns are often filthy with litter and rubbish." Old bedsteads in ditches, rubble tipped behind hedge scrap cars abandoned in thickets: we have all seen it."

### Nobel prize worth more

STOCKHOLM (R) — The value of the Nobel Prizes has been increased by 20 per cent to three million Swedish crowns (\$470,000), the Nobel Foundation said Tuesday. The foundation manages the estate of dynamite inventor Alfred Nobel which finances the annual prizes for outstanding achievements in physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, peace and economics. This year's winners will be announced in October and receive their awards at ceremonies in Stockholm and Oslo in December.

### New Zealand seizes Dr. Ruth's book

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — New Zealand customs officials Saturday seized 4500 copies of a book written by U.S. sex therapist Dr. Ruth Westheimer, saying it may be pornographic. Customs Department spokesman Robin Dore said the copies of "Dr. Ruth's Guide to Sex" were being held in Auckland until the Indecent Publications Tribunal had ruled on its acceptability. Dr. Westheimer is due to visit New Zealand next week to promote the book, which has sold well in neighbouring Australia. A spokeswoman for her publisher, Transworld Publisher, Jacqui Dimes, said she was stunned by the decision to hold the book.

### Coming Relief collects \$3.6m for homeless

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Comic Relief III, which featured the talents of Billy Crystal, Whoopi Goldberg, Robin Williams and other comedians, collected \$3.6 million in pledges of money to help the homeless. The amount was nearly \$1 million more than last year's donations, said Comic Relief Vice-President Dennis Albaugh. The four-hour telethon was televised Saturday night on the Home Box Office cable network with Joe Piscopo, Garry Shandling, Shelly Long, Bobcat Goldthwait and John Larroquette joining hosts Crystal, Goldberg and Williams. The two previous Comic Relief shows amassed more than \$5 million to fund homeless relief efforts in nearly two dozen U.S. cities, officials said. Entertainers donated their time and HBO assumed all production costs, allowing all viewer donations to go directly to the non-profit Comic Relief Organization.

### The weather at major world capitals & cities

	MON. MAX.
AMSTERDAM	10 °C 41 °F 52 °C Cloudy
ATHENS	07 45 20 58 Cloudy
Bahrain	15 59 24 75 Clear
BANGKOK	26 77 62 82 Partly
BUENOS AIRES	24 75 13 84 Clear
CAIRO	15 58 29 62 Clear
CHICAGO	08 21 24 35 Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	04 39 08 46 Cloudy
FRANKFURT	07 45 11 52 Rain
GENEVA	03 37 10 50 Clear
HONG KONG	14 57 16 61 Cloudy
ISTANBUL	09 48 12 55 Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	15 59 29 62 Cloudy
MADRID	02 36 18 51 Clear
MOSCOW	17 63 35 98 Cloudy
MIAMI	23 73 28 72 Cloudy
MONTRÉAL	05 23 03 52 Cloudy
MOSCOW	17 63 35 98 Cloudy
NEW DELHI	08 49 16 61 Cloudy
NEW YORK	04 39 08 47 Cloudy
PARIS	08 45 14 57 Cloudy
ROME	07 45 26 68 Clear

## Communists challenge Craxi

ROME (R) — Achille Occhetto, leader of the West's biggest Communist Party, challenged Italy's Socialists Tuesday to join a left-wing offensive against the Christian Democrats' 40-year hold on power.

In speech closing debate at the five-day Congress of the Italian Communist Party (PCI), Occhetto defied Socialist leader Bettino Craxi to choose between joining a left-wing alliance that could transform Italy or continue to participate in Christian Democrat-led governments.

Responding to a statement by Christian Democrat (DC) leader Arnaldo Forlani that the Communists had tried to overthrow his party for 40 years but would never succeed, Occhetto declared to loud applause:

"Is this a challenge only to us? ... I would like to ask our Socialist comrades: Don't you feel challenged by this statement, or do you want to leave us to carry alone the banner of an alternative?"

The Communists are Italy's second biggest party but they have been locked in opposition, while the dominant Christian Democrats led all but four post-war governments.

Bettino Craxi



This has helped undermine the Communists' appeal and in local elections last May they slumped to 22 per cent, their worst result for 35 years.

At the same time Craxi has led a revival of the Socialists, now only four points behind the Communists compared with 25 per cent a decade ago.

Craxi's eventual aim is to top the DC but while the left remains too weak, he has chosen to remain in government with the DC as the best way to boost his power.

Yan Mingyu, who heads the Communist Party's office that deals with other parties, said the plan will be ready by June or July.

He made the remark during a meeting with members of the Chinese People's Consultative Conference from Hong Kong and Macao, currently meeting in Peking. The conference is an advisory body to the government.

Yan said the move is part of larger political reforms.

China is also moving to separate the functions of the Communist Party and the government. In the past, the party directly controlled the government. Now, Yan said, the party would guide the government through the enactment of laws.

## Bush to go ahead with FSX project

WASHINGTON (R) — President Bush said Tuesday he wanted to go ahead with joint U.S.-Japanese production of an advanced F-16 fighter plane "with certain clarifications" and was awaiting Japan's response.

"I don't know when there'll be an official announcement but I've made my decision to go forward with certain clarifications," Bush told reporters during a brief question and answer session in the Oval Office.

Critics of the plan for the new aircraft, to be known as the FSX, fear it will provide Japan with secret U.S. technology.

White House spokesman Marvin Fitzwater had said earlier in the day that Secretary of State James Baker had discussed the proposed clarifications with Japanese Ambassador Noboru Matsunaga at a State Department meeting Monday.

Asked if he had received a response from Tokyo, Bush said there had been "no representation to the Oval Office" yet.

Baker, joined by Defense Secretary Dick Cheney, Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher and National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft, met Matsunaga to discuss "various options and aspects related to the decision," Fitzwater said.

"We're interested in their (Japan's) view of some of the suggestions we've made and some of the options we've laid out," the spokesman added.

An announcement of Bush's

final decision on how to proceed with the agreement by former President Ronald Reagan last year to let Japan to co-produce the FSX was "still likely this week," Fitzwater said.

The inherited agreement sparked the first major foreign policy row of the new administration.

Some of Bush's advisers argued that the project would give away technology that Japan needed to compete with the United States in manufacturing civilian planes.

Another faction said U.S.-Japan relations could be harmed if Washington reneged on or drastically modified the agreement.

The Washington Post quoted unidentified sources Tuesday as saying that changes sought by Bush included new safeguards for computer source codes.

These would allow U.S. technology to be shared with Japan for the FSX with restrictions that would keep the Asian economic powerhouse from applying it to other planes.

A group of U.S. Senators have asked Bush to break the FSX agreement but administration officials repeatedly said Bush would at most try to revise it to meet critics' objections.

U.S. officials said it was not at all certain the Japanese will be willing to accept changes, raising a possibility that Tokyo would scrap the deal if it were dissatisfied with Bush's proposed modifications.

## German firms aided Pakistan

BONN (AP) — The weekly magazine Stern reported Tuesday that at least 70 West German companies provided Pakistan with technology to develop atomic weapons and that Bonn officials ignored intelligence reports about the apparently illegal exports. A regional prosecutor in the city of Hanau, Klaus Schneider, confirmed to the AP that his office came across information implicating the firms during a review of Pakistani banking records.

The office brought the findings to the attention of Federal Customs authorities. Schneider said, Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has repeatedly stated that her country does not have nuclear weapons and has no intention of developing them. "From special

steel, optical equipment and computers to highly explosive tritium, the German companies delivered practically everything that was needed for the construction of an atomic bomb — in part intentionally and in part certainly in good faith," Stern said in a report provided to news media.

## Papua New Guinea riots

PONT MORESBY (R) — Hundreds of tribesmen, some armed with spears and bows and arrows, went on a rampage through the business district of the Papua New Guinea capital Wednesday. Port Moresby police used teargas to disperse the tribesmen, who overturned cars, smashed shop windows, stoned bystanders and looted stores. The trouble broke out when the tribesmen tried to march on parliament in protest at the death of a youth leader, allegedly killed by members of another tribe. The marchers became unruly after they were turned back before reaching parliament house, witnesses said. Some demonstrators were injured but there were no major casualties, police said. Violence in the South Pacific nation's capital came the day after Prime Minister Rabie Namaliu ordered a platoon of troops to help police halt fighting on the mining island of Bougainville.

## 45 Indonesians arrested

JAKARTA (R) — Indonesian security forces have arrested 45 people in Dompu on the island of Sumbawa, east of Bali, for stirring up anti-government and ethnic unrest, home affairs minister Rudini said Wednesday. He said the arrests last week had links to a clash in February between security forces and agitators accused of inciting Muslim fanaticism in Lampung district, south Sumatra. At least 31 people died in the clashes in Lampung, 2,000 kilometres from Dompu. "There was an ethnic problem in Dompu and it was encouraged by elements linked to the Lampung case," Rudini told reporters.

## 5 Indonesian activists end embassy sit-in

PRETORIA (R) — Four South African black activists who took refuge in West German embassy Monday to protest against detention without trial left the mission Wednesday.

"We are leaving the embassy now in a victorious mood. We are very happy about what we have done," said Ephraim Nkwe, one of the four.

The four, who escaped from a Johannesburg hospital where they were being treated for the after-effects of a hunger strike, left the embassy after the government said they were free men.

Law and Order Minister Adrian Vlok said Tuesday that release orders for the four had been signed and that they would not be re-arrested after they left the embassy.

The four had made four demands including that all prisoners held without trial under South African emergency laws be released.

The four looked cheerful as they walked out of the embassy

## Ceausescu faces growing isolation from East, West

By Colin McIntyre  
Reuter

VIENNA — Romania's communist leader Nicolae Ceausescu faces growing isolation, under attack abroad from both East and West and at home from former top party officials.

The ultra-orthodox Ceausescu, 71, has long had a reputation for running the harshest regime in the Soviet bloc.

Romanian-born playwright Eugene Ionesco declared it last month as "a daily nightmare of severe poverty and rampant fear of the secret police."

But the chorus of protests grew to a roar last year when Ceausescu, who has led the country for 24 years, announced plans to eliminate half the country's villages and rehouse the population in new urban centres.

There have also been protests over Ceausescu's decision to bulldoze an old residential district of Bucharest, once described as the "Paris of the Balkans," to make way for a mammoth new civic centre.

Apart from the sheer scale of the project in one of Europe's poorest countries,